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FAMILY PRAYERS.

LONDON:
GILBERT & RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,
St. John's Square.

FAMILY PRAYERS,

BY THE LATE

BODLEIANA · BIBLIOTHECA

HENRY THORNTON, Esqre. M.P.

LONDON:
J. HATCHARD & SON, PICCADILLY.

1834.

653.

LONDON:
GILBERT & RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,
St. John's Square.

PREFACE.

The following Prayers were prepared by the late Mr. Henry Thornton for the use of his own family only. Many of those, who heard them in his life time, and many of those, who have heard them since, have often expressed a wish, that they might not be confined to that circle. Copies were, therefore, sometimes given: and from one of these, carried to a distant dependency of the empire, an imperfect edition was printed. From that time, perhaps, all delicacy with respect to the publication of an authorized edition was removed.

Those who are familiar with other manuals of devotion may here occasionally find passages which are not new to them; and may, indeed, recognise two [1] entire prayers, which, as specimens of family

[1] The first draughts of two or three others were contributed in the same manner to another work.

devotion, have already been published in another work to which they were contributed anonymously by Mr. Henry Thornton. His object was not human praise: giving thus to the work of another; or borrowing, here and there, a phrase or a sentence from elder divines to enrich his own collection of prayers, his single aim was to promote the glory of God in the edification of His people; providing, by these prayers, in the first place, for the household which Providence had united round him; and endeavouring, in the second place, by the family prayers which have been already mentioned, to excite in others a taste for domestic worship, and to furnish some aid to them in its exercise.

The world will be wiser and better, and therefore happier, in proportion as it shall imbibe the spirit of the life and of the prayers of Mr. Henry Thornton. Admirable as have been the examples of excellence which the present generation has been permitted to witness, there has not been perhaps one individual in the whole number who exhibited in a more striking manner that combination of qualities which constitutes Christian consistency. His piety was fervent, and yet sober; his liberality

was magnificent, and yet discriminating; his charity was large, and yet not latitudinarian; his self-denial was rigorous, yet unobtrusive. At one time, there was some hope, that these principles—as embodied, by the grace of God, in his habitual conduct—might have been exhibited to the world by the hand of his dearest and most intimate friend: a life of Henry Thornton, by William Wilberforce would, indeed, have been a legacy of wisdom and piety, which would have enriched many generations. This hope, long cherished, is now finally lost: and the character of Mr. Henry Thornton must perhaps be left to be collected from his works; his original and intellectual powers, from his Essay on Paper Credit, (the publication of which, as Dr. Miller observed, in his Philosophy of History, forms an epoch in the history of the science to which it belongs;)—his views of religion from the Prayers now published; and from some practical commentaries on the Old and New Testament, portions of which, complete for publication, are now in the press. These, like the present work, he drew up for the use of his own family: but it is hoped, that, like these Prayers, they may be rendered not only illustrative of his own cha-

racter (an object which he certainly never contemplated), but, by the Divine blessing, may promote, after his death, the great designs of his life, the good of his fellow-creatures and the glory of God.

R. H. I.

Battersea Rise,
June 6, 1834.

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OUR FATHER, which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

THE grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and the love of GOD, and the fellowship of the HOLY GHOST, be with us all evermore. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYERS.

FIRST MORNING.

O Lord, God Almighty, who art the Creator and the governor of the world, and hast abundantly provided for the various wants of Thy creatures; who hast appointed the day and the night to succeed each other, and when Thou hast refreshed man with sleep, requirest him to pursue his work until the evening; who hast also ordained that he shall be born to trouble, and hast appointed the grave to be the end of all living; We thank Thee, that, while Thou hast thus ordained our lot in this life, Thou hast not left us without hope in that world which is to come. We adore Thee for the gift of Jesus Christ Thy Son, by whose Gospel life and immortality are brought to light, and we are fully instructed in all those things which concern our salvation. We bless Thee for the pardon of sin, through faith in a Redeemer; for the guidance of Thy providence; and for the consolations of Thy Spirit. We thank Thee for Thy holy sab-

baths; for Thy written word; and for all the other means of grace, which Thou hast entrusted to us.

Grant, we beseech Thee, that we may this day pursue, with fidelity and diligence, that work which Thou hast assigned to us; and that we may, at the same time, maintain a spiritual and heavenly mind. In the midst of life we are in death: O let us remember this awful truth; and let us live this day as we shall wish that we had done, if it should, indeed, prove our last. Save us from the sins to which we are most prone. Leave us not to the natural dispositions of our own minds, which are ever inclining us to evil; but put Thy Spirit within us; and teach us to cultivate every Christian temper, and to abound in every good work. Strengthen our faith in the glorious promises of the Gospel; and fill us with that joy and peace in believing, which shall be more than a compensation for all the temporal sacrifices to which we may be called. Dispose us to bear affliction with a patient and quiet mind; or, if Thou shouldest continue to us prosperity, to be ever watchful over ourselves, and moderate in our enjoyments; and let us impart freely to others the good gifts which Thou showerest down upon us. Inspire us with zeal in the fulfilment of our relative duties; with integrity in our dealings; and the spirit of kindness to all men. Let us continually examine ourselves; and, advancing in self-knowledge, let

us prevail over our several infirmities. Let us grow in grace, and in all goodness, and in meetness for Thy heavenly kingdom.

We pray for Thy blessing on all our friends and relations: may they also be filled with the knowledge of Thy will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; and may we, and they, be of one heart, and one mind, loving each other as brethren in Christ, and uniting our endeavours to promote both the good of all men and Thy glory. Have mercy on the poor and the afflicted—strengthen the weak—succour the tempted—and guide the ignorant into the way of knowledge. Bless the rising generation; save them from the dangers of this evil world; sanctify to them the events which shall befal them; make them instruments in Thy hand for the advancement of the interests of Thy Church on earth, and members of Thy blessed family in heaven.

We offer these our humble and imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SECOND MORNING.

Almighty and Eternal God, our Creator and Preserver, and continual Benefactor, we desire to

begin this day with the acknowledgment of Thy power and goodness, and of our obligation to love and serve Thee: and we beseech Thee to grant us grace to pass the whole of it in Thy fear, and in the fulfilment of Thy commandments. Thou hast appointed to each of us our work in life; O LORD, enable us diligently to perform our respective duties. Let us not waste our time in unprofitableness, or idleness; nor be unfaithful to any trust committed to us. Let us not put on the mere appearance of goodness; nor endeavour in any respect to deceive those around us: but let us remember, that Thine eye is upon us; and let us have the testimony of our consciences, that, in simplicity and godly sincerity, we have our conversation in the world. Let truth be ever on our lips. Let us be examples of all integrity and uprightness. Help us, also, to perform a kind and Christian part towards those who may come under our influence. May we labour to do them service; and continually deny ourselves, that we may the more effectually and abundantly minister to the various wants of others. May we rejoice with them that rejoice, and weep with them that weep; and be kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly love, in honour preferring one another.

We also beseech Thee to give us patience to bear the several trials and vicissitudes of life with an equal and contented mind. Let us not be per-

plexed with the cares of this world; nor overwhelmed with unnecessary fears; but let us ever trust Thy gracious providence, and hope in Thy goodness and mercy. Give to us, when we are in prosperity, a spirit of moderation and sobriety. Save us from pride and self-indulgence. Deliver us from the too great love of earthly things; and teach us to remember, that it is Thou who givest us all things richly to enjoy. Bless unto us the afflictive circumstances through which we may pass. May we see Thy hand in all Thy various dispensations; and adore Thee for the several events of Thy providence, knowing that, if we truly love and serve Thee, all things shall work together for our good.

We commend to Thy kind and fatherly care all our friends and relations. Direct, O Lord, their steps in life; and bless them with all spiritual blessings in Jesus Christ. Vouchsafe unto them the pardon of their sins, and the blessed hope of eternal life. We pray for the rising generation. May they remember their Creator in the days of their youth; and find Thee to be their refuge in all the scenes through which they pass. Have mercy on all who are in any sorrow or trouble. Do thou provide for them through the riches of Thy mercy, and send special help in their hour of need. Be favourable to this nation. Bless the King, and all the Royal Family. Direct our counsellors. Give wisdom to our Houses of Parliament.

Inspire our magistrates with integrity; and our clergy with the spirit of true religion. Deliver us from the hands of all our enemies, and give us peace among ourselves.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRD MORNING.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, most gracious and merciful God, who hast preserved us through all the stages of our past lives, and hast blest us with unnumbered benefits, being never weary of doing us good, give us grace, we beseech Thee, most humbly and heartily to thank Thee for all Thy loving-kindness vouchsafed unto us; and let us renew the solemn dedication of ourselves unto Thee.

We confess, before Thee, the sins of our lives, which are more than we can number or express. We lament the evil which, day by day, in thought, word, and deed, we have committed against Thee; and we adore the riches of that mercy which forgiveth all our sins, and healeth all our iniquities, and still aboundeth even unto us who have so grievously rebelled against Thee.

We also pray, that, while we rejoice in the

thought of that exceeding goodness which is revealed in the Gospel to us sinners, we may be in all respects suitably impressed with the various doctrines of Thy word; and may bring forth all those fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ to the praise and glory of Thy name.

We pray, that we may this day walk worthy of the Lord: that we may honour Thee by our patience under every trial; by our self-denial in the midst of our temptations; by our meekness under provocations; and by our unwearied zeal in doing good. We pray, that we may surrender up our wills to Thy most holy will in all things; readily accommodating ourselves to every new circumstance, which Thou, in Thy providence, art pleased to send.

Grant that, through the daily contemplation of the doctrines of Thy Gospel, every good disposition may be formed in us. May the faith of Christ be made effectual to bring down our pride, to subdue our selfishness, to improve our temper, to direct and restrain our tongues, to animate us with the purest zeal, and to fill us with charity to our neighbour. May it, also, sanctify our daily work, furnishing the motive to it, exciting our diligence in it, and teaching us to look to Thee, O Lord, for our great and final reward. O God, bless us this day; and, not this day only, but to the end of our lives. Defend us in all our future dangers; succour us in all our sorrows and adversities; lead us

through every difficulty and trial; and, when all the troubles of this mortal life shall be over, conduct us at length, in peace and safety, to the haven of everlasting rest.

If it please Thee to send us prosperity, enable us to devote the good things which Thou givest us to Thy service; and, as Thou extendest Thy mercies, do Thou enlarge, also, the thankfulness of our hearts. Or, if it be Thy sovereign will either to try us with temptations, or to visit us with any sore afflictions, O may we learn to bow to Thy unchanging purposes of mercy to us amidst Thy various dispensations.

To Thee, O God, who hast been the support of our infancy, the help of our youth, and the guide of our advancing years, do we commit ourselves for the days which are to come. Thy Providence hath ordained our lot in life, and hath ordered hitherto all things concerning us. Unto Thee, the same gracious God, do we now resign all our affairs: to Thee do we commend our bodies and souls, our temporal as well as our eternal interests. Especially, we beseech Thee to save us from sin; as well as from those fears, which our past transgressions might justly bring upon us.

We offer up these our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTH MORNING.

ALMIGHTY LORD, OUR GOD, whose eyes are in every place beholding the evil and the good, and who seest not only our outward actions, but all our most secret thoughts, we pray Thee to maintain in us this day a constant sense of Thy presence, and to preserve us from sinning against Thee. We are exposed to dangers by night and by day; our lives are in Thy hands, and unto Thee do we look for preservation from every evil. O LORD, teach us to be ever mindful of Thee. When we go out and come in, and when we are alone and in company, may we bear in mind that Thou art continually with us, and that Thou takest account of all we think, and speak, and do.

We pray Thee, O merciful Father, to pardon our past sins, for Jesus Christ's sake. When we reflect how strict and holy is Thy law; and how often we have yielded to anger and passion, to pride and vanity, to negligence and indolence, or to the desire of some forbidden thing, we are filled with shame and confusion of face on account of our many trespasses against Thee. But we desire to bless Thy holy name, that Thou hast not left us without hope; for Thou hast revealed Thyself to us, as pardoning iniquity, transgression, and sin, for the sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ. We therefore pray Thee now to receive us into Thy favour, and to

make us all children of God by faith in Jesus Christ. We draw near unto Thee, trusting in His name, and not in our own righteousness; and we also beseech Thee, for His sake, to strengthen our weakness, and to enable us this day to fulfil every duty to which we are called. May we be kind and affectionate, one to another; sincere and upright in all our dealings, and diligent in our proper work. May we rejoice in every opportunity of doing good; and may we have grace to deny ourselves, that we may the more abundantly minister to the wants of others. Put into us a spirit of compassion for the poor, as well as of thankfulness to Thee who hast made us to differ. Teach us to forgive those who have injured us; since we ourselves have so many sins for which we hope to be forgiven. Produce in us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, every Christian grace. Raise us up to be instruments in Thy hand for the good of many: and, while we are serving our generation, may we be abundantly blessed in our own souls; and rejoice in the sense both of Thy pardoning mercy, and of Thy constant and special protection.

We pray thee, O Lord, to look down in compassion on all our dear friends and relations. Bestow upon them all things which Thou knowest to be needful for them. Sustain and comfort them in this life; but, especially, vouchsafe unto them the blessings of the life to come. Bless our King. Direct the public councils of the nation. Give

success to every endeavour to relieve the oppressed, and to establish righteousness and peace on the earth. Have mercy on the young. Grant that they may be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and thus learn to do Thy will and to walk in Thy fear all the days of their lives; and to hand down Thy truth to the latest posterity. O LORD, we beseech Thee to bring us all, by the multitude of Thy mercies, through this world of many temptations and trials, to that place of everlasting rest and peace, which Thou hast prepared for them who love Thee.

We offer up these our humble supplications, in the name and through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTH MORNING.

O LORD, GOD Almighty, enable us, we beseech Thee, to call upon Thee with humble and devout hearts. Let us not mix any worldly or wandering thoughts with the supplications which we offer up unto Thee; but let us remember, that we are now in Thy presence; and let us worship Thee in spirit and in truth.

We thank Thee, O GOD, for Thy mercy to us during the past night. We bless Thee for

our renewed health and strength; and for the various comforts by which we are surrounded. And we desire now to dedicate again to Thee all the faculties of our bodies and of our minds, and to spend the day, which is before us, to Thy glory. Deliver us, O LORD, from all the temptations of the day. Help us to resist the world, the flesh, and the Devil. Let us not be drawn aside to any thing which is contrary to our Christian duty, either by the propensity to sin which is within us, or by the evil example of those around us; but let us watch and strive continually, that all our ways may be pleasing in Thy sight. We confess, that we are weak, and helpless, and laden with iniquity. But do Thou, for our merciful Saviour's sake, have compassion on our infirmities; and give us grace sufficient for us in every hour of our necessity. O LORD, grant that we may thus be preserved from sin; and, putting our trust in Thee, may not be confounded. Give us faith in all the truths of Thy word; may we be daily warned by the terrors of the LORD, and invited by Thy mercy. May we meditate on the awful punishments denounced against the wicked, and call to mind the reward which Thou hast promised unto those who please Thee by patient continuance in well-doing. And thus may we be prepared to make every sacrifice, to which Thou mayest be pleased to call us. May we cut off the right hand, and pluck out the right eye, when Thou requirest

us to do it. And may we consider all our interests in this life as of no value compared with the eternal welfare of our souls. May we seek first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; trusting that all things which are needful for the body shall be added unto us.

Pardon, O Lord, all our sins in time past: we pray for mercy in the name of Jesus Christ; and we bless Thee for this great Mediator; in whom we would place all our confidence and hope.

We ask every blessing in the name of the same Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SIXTH MORNING.

O Lord, God Almighty, infinite in power, in goodness, and in mercy, help us now to worship Thee with reverence and humility. Before Thee the Angels veil their faces. May we, therefore, approach Thee with a deep sense of thine awful Majesty, and of Thy spotless purity and holiness; and may we so address Thee that Thou mayest hear our prayers, and pour down Thy blessing upon us.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to grant us this day Thy Holy Spirit; that we may be strengthened to

fulfil our several duties, and to resist the temptations which may come upon us. We call upon Thee, in the name of Jesus Christ; through whom Thou vouchsafest strength to the weak, and suppliest all the spiritual wants of the soul. Have compassion upon us, for our Saviour's sake; and give us grace to do whatever Thou requirest of us. O cleanse us for His sake, from the stain of every sin, from pride, and envy, and malice, and selfishness, and uncharitableness; and make us meek, and lowly, and gentle, and kind, and forgiving. Let us not live to please ourselves, or indulge any evil inclinations of our own hearts; but let us aim to glorify Thee, our God, and to do good in our generation. Thou hast appointed, unto each of us, our work in life. We pray, that we may have grace to fulfil, each of us, the duties of our several stations with integrity and fidelity. May we remember, that this day Thine eye is continually upon us; and, while we think of Thee, may we put our cheerful trust in Thee, and commit all our ways unto Thee, and be found in the fear of the Lord all the day long.

We desire to acknowledge Thy various mercies to us. We bless Thee that Thou coverest our table with plenty, that Thou makest us to abound with the good things of this life, and causest us to go out and come in, in safety. O Lord, help us to use with moderation the gifts which Thou bestowest; and to maintain, while we enjoy them,

continual thankfulness of heart. Especially, we bless Thee for Thy mercies in Jesus Christ; by whom we obtain pardon of sin, and the blessed hope of eternal life. We beseech Thee, for His sake, to give us a right understanding in all things; that we may know how to walk so as to please Thee, and how to avoid all that is hateful in Thy sight. Guide us in all difficulties; and strengthen us under all temptations; and supply Thou our spiritual, as well as temporal, wants, for Thy great mercy's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SEVENTH MORNING.

O Lord, God Almighty, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of another day, we pray Thee to conduct us through the same in peace; and to enable us so to pass all the time of our pilgrimage on earth, that, when we go hence, we may be prepared to meet Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom. When we think of this life and its various temptations; when we look abroad, and behold the wickedness of the world, and then contemplate also the weakness and corruption of our nature, we might well sink through fear of the difficulties with

which we have to struggle, and tremble lest we should fall under the power of our manifold temptations. But we bless Thee, O LORD, for that abundant grace which is treasured up for us in Jesus Christ. We thank Thee for all the motives, promises, and encouragements afforded us in Thy Gospel; and we would daily rejoice in it as the power of GOD unto salvation unto every one that believeth. We bless Thee, that Thy Son hath died a sacrifice for sin; and that the Spirit of Christ is sent to sanctify us. We, therefore, now pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit; that we may go forth to our daily occupations and trials, having the Lord for our righteousness and our strength.

Prepare us, we beseech Thee, for every duty of this day; arm us for every trial which may come upon us. Do Thou sanctify us, O LORD, in body, soul, and spirit. May we now seriously devote ourselves to Thee; and may we be found walking in Thy fear all the day long; fulfilling, each of us, our proper work with Christian humility and simplicity. Deliver us from a careless and unbelieving life; from a life of idleness, and unprofitableness, as well as of wickedness and vice. Save us from the sins which in times past may have most easily beset us; and from those temptations to which we may now, through our age and circumstances, be most exposed. May our hearts be occupied with love to Thee; and may all our fa-

culties be so employed in doing good, that no place may be given for those temptations by which those who know not the gospel of their salvation are continually overcome.—And may Thy grace increase in us; and our corruptions be weakened, day by day: at the same time, forgetting the things which are behind, and looking forward to those things which are before, may we be pressing forward towards the mark of the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus.

We, also, beseech Thee to deliver us from every prejudice and error by which we may be in danger of being deceived. Save us from a blinded conscience, and a false and misguided zeal. Suffer not that, through our fault, the way of truth should ever be evil-spoken of; and make us fearful lest we hinder the Gospel of Christ.

O Lord, help us also this day to remember, how short and uncertain is the time of our sojourning here on earth; so that, whatsoever our hands find to do, we may do it with all our might. May we fulfil zealously the duties of our respective stations, and, at the same time, maintain a spiritual and heavenly mind. May we often think of that blessed region where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God; and, whether we eat, or drink, or whatsoever we do, may we do all to Thy glory. We offer up these our humble and imperfect prayers, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Our Father, &c.—The grace of our Lord, &c.

EIGHTH MORNING.

O Lord, God Almighty, we pray Thee now to deliver us from all wandering thoughts. Help us to remember in whose presence we are; and let us worship Thee in spirit and in truth.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, who art the Preserver of our lives, and the Giver of all the good things which we enjoy, we thank Thee for the mercies of the past night. We bless Thy name, that we are here met together in so much health and comfort; and that we have now the prospect of passing another day in the enjoyment of the bounties of Thy providence, while we have also set before us the blessed hope of everlasting life. We beseech Thee to give us this day grace to serve Thee in our several stations, and to walk according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Save us from the temptations of the day; strengthen us for the fulfilment of our duties; direct us in all difficulties; and comfort us under any trouble or adversity into which we may this day come; and grant, that, when we lie down at night, we may be able to look back on the hours which shall have passed, with a humble confidence that Thou acceptest our services, and will pardon our infirmities, for Jesus Christ's sake.

We beseech Thee to deliver us from all evil passions, from pride and envy, from hatred and

ill-will, from censoriousness and uncharitableness; and especially from the want of Christian kindness towards those who dwell with us in the same family, and worship Thee together as partakers of the same faith. Preserve us, also, from those secret transgressions which Thine eye alone can discern in us. Deliver each of us from the sins which most easily beset us. O Lord, grant that Thy good Spirit may this day abide within us; and dispose us to every good work.

And help us also to call often to remembrance the great love of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; who came down from heaven to die for us, that we, being delivered from the dread of Thy wrath, and rejoicing in the hope of Thy mercy, might serve Thee, day by day, in newness of life. O Lord, strengthen our faith in Him who hath suffered on the cross for us. Teach us to walk according to His example. May we, like Him, be kind and compassionate, forbearing and forgiving, holy and harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners.

And bless us, not this day only, but to the end of our lives. We pray, that, so long as we remain in this world of trial, Thou wouldst strengthen us by Thy Holy Spirit, and comfort us, and continually direct us. Suffer us not at any time to depart from Thee, who art our Father and our God, through any allurements of the world, or any temptations of the flesh, or of the

Devil, but make us ever stedfast in Thy truth, and faithful to Thy cause, and devoted to Thy service.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers, in the name, and through the mediation, of our only Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

NINTH MORNING.

O God, who hast commanded us in Thy word to call upon Thy name, and hast declared that Thou hearest and answerest the prayers of those who make their supplications unto Thee, we desire now to offer up our petitions under a deep sense of our unworthiness, and of Thy manifold and great mercies.

We thank Thee for Thy preservation of us during the past night; and we desire to acknowledge again our dependence upon Thee, and our unfeigned obligations towards Thee. We render thanks to Thee for having poured down upon us so many blessings of this life, for our health and strength, our food and raiment, and all the comforts and conveniences which we enjoy. But, above all, we praise Thee for the inestimable privilege of being born in a land of religious light and knowledge. For these and all Thy various and great mercies, we would render unto Thee a

grateful heart; and we would endeavour to show our gratitude, not with our lips only, but with our lives; by rendering ourselves up to Thy service, and by walking before Thee, in holiness and righteousness, all the days of our lives.

We now beseech Thee, to enable us by Thy grace to pass the whole of this day in Thy fear. May we employ ourselves in doing those things which become our station and circumstances: may we mortify all our corrupt affections: may we exercise ourselves in maintaining a conscience void of offence towards Thee, and towards all men: may we rise superior to our temptations; and by Thy grace prevail over our several infirmities.

We pray Thee, O Lord, to animate our minds by those glorious hopes which are set before us in Thy word; so that if we have any present sacrifices to make, they may seem small to us in comparison of that inward satisfaction and joy, which the gospel gives in the midst of worldly disappointments. And, at the same time, deliver us from every false hope. May we examine well our title to heaven, till we know that our foundation is sure, and shall never fail us. We confess, that we are daily compassed with infirmity; but we pray, that every evil habit may be weakened in us, that every temptation may by degrees be overcome, and every fear and terror at length be done away. May we thus be brought into the true liberty of the children of God; and serve thee without fear,

in holiness and righteousness, all the days of our lives.

Hear, O Lord, these our prayers, and supply both our temporal and spiritual wants, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our blessed Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TENTH MORNING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, we kneel down to thank Thee for Thy merciful care and protection during the past night; and we beseech Thee now to let Thy blessing rest upon us. Help us to begin the day with the solemn dedication of ourselves to Thy service; and then to go to the duties of our several stations, with an earnest desire to do every thing in Thy fear, and with a view to Thy glory.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to establish us in the great doctrines of Thy gospel; may we be grounded in the faith of Christ crucified for us:—may that history which we read in Thy holy word, of our Saviour's coming down from Heaven, to live as our example, and to die as the Atonement for our sins, affect us deeply, and have its full influence upon us: may it excite our warmest gratitude to Him who died for us: may it inspire us with hatred against sin: may it elevate us above the

fear of wicked men; and may we learn to take part with our suffering and despised Lord. May that zeal to save us, which He showed, awaken, in each of us, a concern for our own salvation; and may it be the chief desire of our hearts to be made partakers of all the benefits both of His death and of His glorious resurrection.

But since we are by nature so prone to evil, and so little disposed to spiritual things, we pray Thee, O God, to purify our minds from all sinful and vain desires by the powerful efficacy of Thy grace. O Lord, grant unto us Thine Holy Spirit. May it dwell within us, as a spirit of purity and holiness, a spirit of truth and of wisdom, of peace also, and love, and of holy joy, and consolation. May we pass this day in the thankful remembrance of Thy mercies, and in the diligent performance of Thy commandments. May no evil thoughts, no angry tempers, no distressing doubts or fears disturb us. May we serve Thee our God; and live peaceably with all men. May we be kind, and humble; patient, and thankful; and sober-minded, and temperate in all things. May we fulfil the duties of the day; and may we lie down at night, praising Thee again for all Thy goodness; and committing ourselves with holy confidence to Thy mercy.

We ask these blessings, in the name of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

ELEVENTH MORNING.

Almighty and everlasting God, on whom all Thy creatures every where depend for life, and breath, and all things; in whose favour all their true happiness consists; and whose wrath is insupportable! we, Thy creatures, whom Thy hand hath made, and whom Thy bounty hath supported, kneel down to acknowledge the Author of our being, and to pray for Thy blessing upon us.

We lament, that we are by nature so prone to evil; and that, amidst the many gifts bestowed upon us, we so seldom lift up our thoughts to Him, who is the Giver. Every night Thou again refreshest us with sleep; and every morning Thou renewest Thy various mercies to us; giving us health, and strength, and talents for Thy service, and affording to us fresh opportunities for our usefulness in the world.

We pray, that, as our days pass away, we may be improving the time which is allotted to us. May we gather wisdom from Thy sacred word. May we diligently attend on the means of grace; and may we labour, each of us, as Thy faithful servants in our several callings.

We pray Thee to impress upon us a deep sense of the importance of eternity. May we be looking continually to the end of our course; and, remembering how soon all the things in which we here

delight shall have passed away for ever, may we prepare to give up our account of all things done in the body; and, day by day, may we have our conversation in Heaven; moderating our affections towards the things of this world, and living here below a life of faith in the Son of God.

And now, O Lord, whatsoever may be that employment which Thy providence allotteth to us, may we fulfil it as in Thy fear, and with a view to Thy glory. And wheresoever we are this day, be Thou present with us to bless us. May Thy Spirit enlighten, strengthen, and direct us. May we fall into no sin; nor run into any kind of danger. We pray, especially, for grace to conquer those sins which do most easily beset us. Thou knowest, O Lord, our several infirmities. O give us grace to be careful and circumspect. Let us avoid every approach to our former temptations; and let us renew our repentance with unfeigned sorrow and contrition of heart. Hear us, we now beseech Thee, in these our imperfect supplications. Forgive us all our past transgressions; and grant us grace for the time to come. All which we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWELFTH MORNING.

Almighty God, by whose will we were created, and by whose providence we have been sustained, by whose mercy we have been called to the knowledge of our Redeemer, and by whose grace whatever we have thought or done which hath been acceptable to Thee, hath been inspired and directed! Vouchsafe unto us this day Thy blessing. Strengthen us for the performance of the duties now before us. And, since Thou hast ordained labour to be the lot of man, and knowest the want and necessities of all Thy creatures, bless from time to time our several endeavours and employments. Give us this day our daily bread. Feed us with food convenient for us. If it be Thy pleasure to cause us to abound with the good things of this life, give us a compassionate spirit, that we may be ready to relieve the wants of others: but let neither riches nor poverty estrange our hearts from Thee; nor cause us to become negligent of those treasures in Heaven which can never be taken from us. And into whatever circumstances of life we may be brought, teach us to be cheerful and content. In our affliction, let us remember how often we have been succoured; and, in our prosperity, may we acknowledge from whose hand our blessings are received.

And do Thou dispose us all, most merciful God,

so to remember our sins, that we may be brought to true repentance, and unfeigned sorrow, and contrition of soul. Strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ our Lord; and grant, that through the gracious help of Thy Holy Spirit, we may obtain that peace which the world cannot give; and may be enabled to pass the residue of our lives in humble resignation, and willing obedience. We acknowledge, O God, that every day is Thy gift, and ought to be used according to Thy command. O Thou, in whose hands are life and death, and by whose mercy we are spared, help us so to improve the time, that we may every day become more holy in Thy sight; and, when it shall please Thee to call us from this mortal state, may we resign our souls into Thy hands with confidence and hope; and may we finally find mercy, and obtain a joyful resurrection to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We commend to Thy fatherly goodness all our relations and friends, especially those who are the most closely united to us. We beseech Thee to look mercifully upon them; and to grant them whatever may most promote their present and eternal joy.

Bless our King, and all in authority. Extend Thy goodness to our whole native land. Pity the sorrows, and relieve the necessities of all mankind. And let Thy kingdom come; and Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven.

O Lord, hear our prayers, for Jesus Christ's sake; to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRTEENTH MORNING.

Most gracious and merciful God, who hast protected us through the night, hast refreshed us with sleep, and hast brought us together this morning in peace,—we desire to present unto Thee our unfeigned thanks and praise for all Thy various and great mercies. We confess that we are unworthy to come into Thy presence, before whom the angels veil their faces, and the heavens are not clean in Thy sight; for our lives have been unholy, and our sins many and great. If, therefore, Thou shouldst mark iniquity, O Lord, who shall stand? But we rejoice that there is with Thee forgiveness and plenteous redemption, through Jesus Christ Thy Son. Pleading, therefore, His sacrifice, and trusting in His intercession, we approach the throne of Thy grace, and say, "God be merciful to us sinners, for Jesus Christ's sake." O Lord, grant unto us true repentance, and a lively faith. Convince us of our guilt. Discover to us every thing

either in our hearts or lives which hath been displeasing to Thee.

We pray, that, through faith in the blood of Thy Son, we may obtain peace in our consciences; and that, through that blessed hope which is set before us, we may be raised above the various troubles, disappointments, and temptations of this present evil world.

We pray, also, that through the knowledge of Thy truth, and the help of Thy Spirit, we may be disposed to fulfil every precept of Thy word. May we do unto all men as we would that they should do unto us; and may we forgive one another, even as we hope to be forgiven. May we be clothed with humility; and, denying all ungodliness and worldly lusts, may we live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world. May we be content with such things as we have; fulfilling, each of us, our proper duties; and watching against anger, malice, hatred, envy, and all other evil tempers, which are ready to rise up within us. And thus doing Thy will, and walking in Thy ways, and improving every talent committed to us, may we wait for the second coming of our Lord.

We, also, most humbly beseech Thee, O Father of mercies, to look down with an eye of favour on all our friends and relations. Bring home to Thy flock all those who are wandering in the ways of sin. Strengthen and confirm those who love Thy name, that they may rejoice in Thy salvation. Be

gracious unto all whom Thou hast disposed to be kind to us: sanctify them to Thyself; and shower down Thy best blessings upon them. Pity those who are afflicted, tempted, persecuted, enslaved, or oppressed; and in Thy good time give them deliverance. Give success to the labours of the ministers of Thy Gospel. Bless and purify Thy Church. Have compassion on our native land; and, though many sins testify against us, take not away the means of grace so long afforded us.

Bless our King, and all in authority; direct the public measures to our best interests, and to Thy glory; and teach all orders of men to serve their generation according to Thy will. And grant that all the changes in the kingdoms of the world may issue in Thy glory, and in the furtherance of Thy Gospel.

These, and all other things needful for us, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTEENTH MORNING.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art the Giver of all the good things which we enjoy, we, Thy creatures, who are here assembled together in

Thy name, desire to offer our unfeigned thanks for all Thy temporal, as well as spiritual mercies. We bless Thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life ; but, above all, for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ. We thank Thee that the knowledge of this salvation hath extended to us ; and that we have been instructed in the will of God, and in the blessed doctrines of Thy Gospel. We praise Thee for that good providence which hath directed our steps in life. We thank Thee, if Thou hast in any measure enlightened our minds to understand the truths which we have heard, and to know the things which make for our everlasting peace.

O Lord, grant, we now most humbly beseech Thee, that we may not walk in darkness; but, as He that hath called us is Holy, may we also be Holy in all manner of conversation. Give us grace to overcome our sinful appetites and passions ; and to be sober and temperate in all things. Assist us, also, by Thy Holy Spirit, to subdue the corrupt affections of the mind ; all anger, and malice, and envy, and pride, and covetousness; and make us patient and contented, kind and charitable, humble and spiritually-minded. We pray Thee, also, to make us diligent, and useful, in that world in which Thou hast placed us. May we not misspend our time, nor neglect any opportunity of doing good ; but may we be willing daily

to deny ourselves, that we may the more abundantly minister to the various wants of others.

We pray Thee, O Lord, to give unto each of us grace to know the several duties to which we are called; and to be both faithful and zealous in the performance of them. May those who bear rule in this house remember, that they are only the stewards of the good things which Thou entrusted to them; and that they must give account hereafter to their Master who is in Heaven.

Give to the children of this family grace to be obedient in all things; and to learn to walk in the fear of the Lord, and to exercise brotherly kindness towards each other.

May every servant remember, that Thine eye is upon him; and that the Gospel, which he has been taught, requires him not only to approve himself to his master after the flesh, but also to please God who trieth the heart. May we all live together in Christian peace, harmony, and love, endeavouring to administer to each other's comfort, to bear each other's burdens, and to promote each other's temporal as well as spiritual good. Teach us, also, to abound in charity towards all those with whom we may this day have any intercourse.

Pardon, we beseech Thee for Christ's sake, the multitude of our past negligences and sins; and help us to awake unto righteousness, and to be diligent in every good work: and, when we shall

lie down at night, may we have the testimony of our consciences, that we have been serving Thee according to our best opportunities and abilities, with humility and integrity of heart.

We pray for Thy blessing on our King and country; on our friends and relations; and on all who are afflicted in mind, body, or estate. Have pity on those who are walking after the way of their own hearts; and bring them home, O Lord, to Thy flock.

Pardon the coldness and imperfection of these our prayers; and accept them for Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTEENTH MORNING.

O Thou Great and Eternal Being, God of all power and might, giver of every good and perfect gift, and author of all our mercies,—we kneel down, imploring Thee to bestow Thy protection and blessing on this family. Through the bountiful goodness of our Heavenly Father, we have been favoured with innumerable mercies, and we would humbly thank Thee for them; but we beseech Thee to add to all our other blessings the forgiveness of our sins through faith in that Saviour whom Thou hast revealed to us in the Gospel.

We pray Thee, therefore, to impress deeply on our minds, through the power of Thy Holy Spirit, the great doctrines of Thy word; to give us a clear perception of the evil of sin, a deep conviction of our own guilt, a solemn belief in heaven and hell, and a true sense of our obligations to the Lord who bought us. Suffer not that we, who have been baptized into the Christian name, and taught the truths of the Gospel, should live in the same manner as unbelievers; but enable us, by applying those heart-affecting doctrines, which we have learnt, to our daily use in life, to become distinguished as the disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord. May we indeed cleave to the Lord with full purpose of heart, being pure in our most secret thoughts and imaginations; suppressing those high and self-exalting thoughts which are so apt to rise up within us; and constantly bearing in mind how much we sin in all we do, and how entirely we owe every thing which we either have, or hope for, to Thy bountiful goodness and to Thy mercies in Christ Jesus.

And being supported by Thy grace, and grounded in the faith of Christ crucified for us, we pray that we may be enabled to practise every good work. May we be just and true in all our dealings; doing unto others as we would that they should do unto us. May we be humble, thankful, and contented; and may we do honour to Thy Gospel by the manifestation of every Christian temper.

Give us grace to maintain a constant controversy with all evil :—may we ourselves avoid every approach to it; and may we endeavour, according to our opportunities and ability, to persuade all those, over whom we have any influence, to keep at the greatest distance from temptation. O LORD, enable us thus to show that we are Christians not only in general profession, but in all sincerity and seriousness. May we be strict and self-denying; yet kind and liberal to others, candid and charitable, pitiful and courteous. Teach us to understand Thine abounding grace in the Gospel, that we may ourselves abound in every work of charity. Enable us to find favour in the sight of those around us; and especially of those who are dearest to us; that so we may improve our influence for their benefit in this life, and for the furtherance of their everlasting salvation.

Bless us, O LORD, in these Christian purposes, for from Thee alone cometh the strength to serve Thee; and to Thee would we continually look up. Hear us, we beseech Thee, in these our supplications; and grant unto us the help of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may live this day according to these our prayers; and that all the fruits of holiness may abound in us. We ask every blessing in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SIXTEENTH MORNING.

O Lord God Almighty, who hast made the world, and all things in it, whom all Thy creatures are bound to serve, in whose favour is life, and in whose displeasure is misery insupportable; who hast placed us here for a little season, and will ere long call us all to judgment,—we kneel down, O Lord, praying Thee to strengthen our faith in all the promises and threatenings of thy word; that we may indeed live as those who know themselves to be frail and dying creatures on the brink of an awful eternity.

We bless Thee for having brought life and immortality to light by the Gospel. We thank Thee that Thy Son hath died and risen again, hath broken the bonds of death, and hath opened unto us the gates of everlasting life. We thank Thee for the glorious hopes held out to each believer in His name: and at the same time we would rejoice with trembling; remembering that condemnation which belongs to the despisers of His Gospel, and to all who receive this grace of God in vain.

O Lord, grant unto us faith in that eternal world to which we are hastening. May we realize these unseen things:—may we turn from the love of this vain world:—may we perceive the sin which dwelleth in us, and the evil which lieth around us, and be looking forward to that blessed time when we shall

put away the body of this death, and dwell for ever with the Lord. Give us grace to follow the faith and patience of Thy saints, who turned from sin to follow God, and who endured even to the end; whose hearts were estranged from things below, and whose affections were set on things above; who went through trials, and persecutions, and a great fight of afflictions, counting that He whom they served was worthy of all obedience, and was able at length to save and deliver them. O may we, who have the example of their faith, be willing to deny ourselves, and take up our cross and follow Christ; not living an idle, careless life, while we call ourselves the followers of them who now inherit the promises. May we daily mortify the body of sin, and daily renew the conflict with our spiritual enemies. May we be looking continually to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of God.

May we be so animated by our Christian faith as to be willing cheerfully to endure the evils of life, and submit to all Thy righteous will concerning us. If there be any of us who are still strangers to Thee, O teach us to remember how short and uncertain are all our days on earth :—Or if there be any of us who are indolent and trifling, too much occupied with this present world, O raise our thoughts to those things which are above, that we may be fellow-citizens with thy saints and with the

household of God. May we all give diligence to make our calling and election sure—may we all repent and forsake our sins, and believe in Christ—may we all die daily to the things of time, and rise to newness of life—may we all so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SEVENTEENTH MORNING.

O Lord Almighty, who art merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and of great goodness.—We approach Thee as the God of mercy, imploring Thee to hear these our prayers, and to pardon the multitude of our sins, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Day after day we add to the number of our transgressions; every night we have the sins of the preceding day to repent of; and every morning we have reason to fear lest we should again yield to temptation, and return to our former iniquities. We pray, therefore, for Thy preserving and protecting grace. O Lord, put Thy Spirit into all our hearts; that we, being made pure and holy in our secret thoughts, may not fail to perform all that is good and acceptable in Thy sight.

Dispose each of us on this day habitually to

employ our several faculties in Thy service. While we pursue the various duties of our calling, may we have a single eye to Thy glory; and may we undertake no employment on which we cannot hope for Thy blessing. And give us such a portion of Thy grace, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that we may desire to do not only that which is in some degree beneficial; but that which is most excellent and most extensively useful. May no spirit of self-indulgence, no love of ease, no dread of opposition, no fear of shame, prevent our laying out our lives heartily in Thy service. Make us willing in all respects to deny ourselves, that we may live unto Thee. Teach us to enter into the spirit of those Christians and Apostles of old, who counted not their lives dear unto themselves, so that they might finish their course with joy: and who rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Christ; who, living in unity and godly love, were seen striving together for the faith of the Gospel, in nothing terrified by their adversaries.

Grant unto every member of this family Thy peace, and all Thine heavenly consolations: and make us to be of one heart and one mind, praising Thee for Thy mercies, praying to Thee for Thy grace, and uniting in the confession of our daily sins before Thee.

Establish us in Thy faith, and fear, and love; and enlighten us, that we may understand Thy whole

will concerning us. Where we mistake, have pity on our errors; and if we have wandered from the right way, do Thou in mercy bring us back. Lead us, O Lord, into the paths of righteousness and peace. And if we have in any measure attained to the knowledge of Thy truth, may we bring our faith into active exercise. May we watch our hearts, and bridle our tongues, and govern our tempers. May we be ready to forgive, even as we hope to be forgiven. May we be stedfast, and immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that our labour shall not be in vain in the Lord.

We now commit ourselves to Thee for this day; help us to live according to these our prayers; and thus may we be prepared for Thine heavenly kingdom: we ask it for our Saviour's sake.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

EIGHTEENTH MORNING.

Most merciful and gracious God, we kneel down to thank Thee for Thy protection and care during the past night; and we now lift up our voice unto Thee in the morning, imploring Thee this day to bless us; watching over us by Thy merciful providence; putting Thy Spirit within us, and delivering us from all evil.

We are prone, O LORD, to fall into sin. How many incidents, every day, arise, which, if Thy grace be withheld from us, draw forth our natural corruptions. We, therefore, pray Thee, who knowest our frame, and foreseest the trials which are to come upon us, mercifully to prepare us for them; and enable us, amidst the various difficulties, temptations, and sorrows of life, to walk as the patient followers of Christ, and as the faithful servants of the Most High GOD.

We bless Thee, O GOD, for all Thy goodness to us in times past:—for every trial which Thou hast lightened; for every difficulty and snare which Thou hast taken out of our way; and for every affliction which Thou hast either sanctified, or removed.

We thank Thee, that we are here met together, in so much peace and comfort, to offer up our praises to Thee; we thank Thee, that we are yet in the land of the living; having time given us for repentance, and having every opportunity of knowing Thy Holy Will. We thank Thee for all Thine unnumbered mercies; for our health, and strength, and all our worldly goods; for our friends and kind benefactors; and we pray that we may, each of us, in our stations, be instruments in Thy hand for the benefit of our fellow-creatures, and, at the same time, faithful witnesses in the world of the truth and excellency of Thy Gospel.

O LORD, grant that, this day, we may walk in a

manner worthy of our great obligations to Thee, and of our high and heavenly calling. May we remember both Thy spiritual and temporal mercies, and be occupied in acts of grateful obedience to Thee. And we pray Thee to impress upon us more deeply, those truths of Thy Gospel, by which our hearts become prepared for every good and beneficent work. May we think of that Saviour who died on the cross for us; who endured all the extremities of misery that we might be saved, and is now at Thy right hand, making intercession for us. May we remember our Christian profession; living as believers in this crucified LORD, deeply affected with the remembrance of His death, and animated by his glorious resurrection. May we all die unto sin, and live unto righteousness; and, as He, who hath called us, is Holy, may we also be holy in all manner of conversation. We pray, O LORD, for Thy protection this day; and may we faithfully follow Him whose name we bear; may we have hope in His mercy, and may we at length enter into His glory.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

NINETEENTH MORNING.

O LORD, GOD ALMIGHTY, our Creator, Preserver,

and Benefactor, we desire to thank Thee for all Thy past mercies; at the same time beseeching Thee to give us Thy continual grace, and to pour down Thy blessing upon us.

We pray Thee to conduct us by Thy merciful providence in our passage through this life; to defend us amidst our many dangers; to save us from every trial, which we are too weak to endure; and so to order all the circumstances which befal us, that we may not be overpowered with difficulties, nor overwhelmed with temptations, which may come upon us unprepared.

Preserve us, O Lord, from day to day, and from year to year. Give us grace to hate sin, and to avoid those societies and employments, which would lead our hearts from Thee. May our eyes be opened to see the wickedness around us; and may we carefully abstain from all conformity to the sinful customs of this evil world. But when we reflect on the many hindrances to our leading a Christian life; when we contemplate our temptations, both from within and from without; when we look back to the past instances of our weakness, and forward to the yet untried scenes of danger and of difficulty, through which we may each of us have to pass before we leave the world,—on Thee, O Lord, and on Thee alone, are we led to trust; and to Thee do we lift up our daily prayer, for grace to preserve us in the paths of righteousness, so that we may end our days in peace.

O LORD, grant unto us, this day, Thy Holy Spirit. Keep alive in our souls the sense of spiritual things. Impress us with a recollection of the great truths which we have been taught. Fill us with a knowledge of those doctrines of Thy Gospel which Thou hast appointed to be the means of delivering man from sin, and of preserving him in the ways of holiness in the midst of an ungodly world.

Enable us to walk worthy of the LORD throughout the day which is now before us. May we be obedient to Thy will, submissive to Thy providence, and ever thankful for Thy mercies.

Hear, O LORD, and answer these our prayers; forgive us also our numberless transgressions, and accept our imperfect services, for Thy mercies' sake in JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTIETH MORNING.

O LORD, GOD ALMIGHTY, whose creatures we are, to whom our prayers are constantly addressed, and whom we daily profess to serve, bestow upon us Thy grace, that we may yield up to Thee our hearts, and place our delight in acts of obedience to Thee. We beseech Thee so to strengthen our

faith, and to animate our hearts with Thy continual love, that we may be enabled to triumph over those temptations to which we are exposed. Give us Thy Holy Spirit; turn us from the love of sin, if we are in any measure inclining to it; and put into us such an ardent desire to please Thee, that we may be always employing our time and talents in Thy service. We desire to acknowledge Thy right over us; we are bound to honour Thee by all we do, and to seek our Maker's glory.

We thank Thee, O LORD, that, besides our obligations as creatures to the great Author of our existence, Thou hast added the most affecting motives to win us to obedience. We are not our own; we are bought with a price. Thy Son hath died to save us. He hath suffered on the cross, that we might be free. He hath given his life a ransom for us; that He might constrain us by the greatness of His love, to give up our powers to Him. Grant, therefore, O LORD, that we, being daily mindful of what our Saviour hath done for us, may show that we are sensible of our obligations, by the habitual readiness of our minds to do and suffer all things which Thou shalt appoint for us, or in any wise require of us. Enable us, O LORD, this day to deny ourselves, that we may live unto Thee. As the redeemed of the LORD, may we abstain from sin, and flee from every snare. May we be holy in all manner of conversation; awfully impressed with a sense of Thy holiness,

knowing that we are called to become pure in heart, if we hope to see God. And help us to contend with the iniquity of the world around us. Let us not yield to its influence and example; but let us consider ourselves as passing on to a better country; accounting it our great concern to escape from the snares which now surround us; to make sure, each of us, our own salvation; and to be doing good, before we die, with the talents committed to us. Thus may we pass the day which is now before us; and, when the hour of our death shall come, may we then have abundant proof, that we have walked by faith, and not by sight; and that we shall be numbered with Thy chosen people in glory everlasting.

We present these our imperfect supplications in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-FIRST MORNING.

Almighty and everliving God! we acknowledge ourselves bound by innumerable obligations, to praise and adore, to love and serve Thee. From Thee we have received our being. Thou art our constant preserver, and bountiful benefactor; the source of every present enjoyment, and of all our hopes. Thou hast, in Thine infinite condescen-

sion been pleased to look down with pity on our fallen race; and freely to offer salvation to us through JESUS CHRIST. We adore Thee for the promises of Thy mercy and grace, and for the joyful prospect of eternal life, so clearly revealed in Thy holy word. Impress our minds, O LORD, with that deep sense of the important truths made known to us, which shall regulate all our thoughts, and words, and actions.

But while we celebrate Thy goodness to us, we have cause to be ashamed of our conduct. We have great reason, O LORD, to be humbled before Thee, on account of the coldness and insensibility of our hearts; the disorder and irregularity of our lives; and the prevalence of worldly affections within us. Too often have we indulged the tempers which we ought to have subdued, and have left our duty unperformed. O LORD, be merciful to us for Thy Son Jesus Christ's sake. Produce in us deep repentance and a lively faith in that Saviour who hath died for our sins, and risen again for our justification.

And may Thy pardoning mercy be accompanied with the sanctifying influence of Thy Spirit, that we may no more sin against Thee, but may live from henceforth, as becomes the redeemed of the LORD, and the candidates for a happy immortality. Put Thy fear into our hearts that we may never more depart from Thee. Fix our affections on those things which are eternal. Convince us more

effectually of the vanity of this world, and its insufficiency to make us happy; of the evil of sin, and its tendency to make us miserable; of the value of our souls, and the awfulness of that everlasting state, on the borders of which we stand.

We also desire to thank Thee for the watchful care of Thy providence during the past night. We have lain down to sleep; and, blessed be Thy name, we have arisen in safety. May the lives which Thou hast prolonged be devoted to Thy service. O Lord, continue to us Thy favour and protection on this day. Save us from sin, and from all evil. Enable us faithfully to perform every relative duty. May we as a family dwell together in peace. May we subdue every angry passion; and, loving thee with a supreme affection, may we love each other with pure hearts, fervently. Preserve us from those temptations to which we are daily exposed. Make us sensible of our weakness, so that our hearts may be often raised to Thee in humble and fervent supplications for Thy grace. When we are in company, may it be our care to do and to receive good. When we are alone, may we remember that our heavenly Father is with us.

Bless the King, and all the branches of the Royal Family. Be favourable to these nations. Save us from the evil designs of our enemies; and continue to us, if it please Thee, the blessing of peace. Visit all mankind with the light of Thy

gospel; and let its influence increase in this land. In tender mercy regard all who are in affliction. Grant unto our dear friends and relations every blessing which is needful for them. May they and we experience Thy favour in this life, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our LORD.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-SECOND MORNING.

O LORD GOD, our Heavenly Father, unto whom all hearts are open, and from whom no secrets are hid, we beseech Thee to look down on us Thy servants, who desire now, with true humility of soul, to offer up unto Thee our prayers and supplications. We thank Thee for Thy merciful protection during the past night; and we adore that goodness which hath hitherto supplied our wants, and lightened our troubles; which hath preserved our lives in the midst of dangers, and hath caused us to lie down and rise up in peace and safety.

We pray Thee to preserve us this day from evil. Save us from all things which afflict the body, and especially from whatsoever can hurt the soul. May we go forth in Thy strength, to contend against

the world, the flesh, and the Devil; and to fulfil the various duties of our Christian calling. Save us from the sins which most easily beset us. Preserve us from idleness and negligence, as well as from presumptuous transgressions; and deliver us from that insensibility of conscience, which might lead us to justify ourselves, though living a careless and unprofitable life. Grant unto us such knowledge of Thee, that we may love Thee above all things, and earnestly desire to obey every precept of Thy holy word. Teach us to redeem the time; to be watchful and circumspect; and to abstain from all appearance of evil. Teach us to be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord, and to be never weary of well-doing; and let us take continual care, lest, through some liberty in which we indulge ourselves, we should draw others into sin, or should cause the gospel, which we profess, to be evil spoken of.

O Lord, help us also seriously to consider the shortness of life, and the nearness of death and of eternity; that, whatsoever our hands find to do, we may do it with all our might. Let us have our loins girded, and our lamps burning, and be as servants waiting for their Lord. Let us not say in our hearts, that our Lord delayeth his coming; but let us remember, that the day of our death may overtake us suddenly; and that blessed is that servant whom his Lord when He cometh shall find watching.

And grant, O most merciful God, that when at length we shall be called before Thine awful throne, to give account to Him who is the Judge of quick and dead, we may hear that joyful sentence proclaimed in our ears: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:"—may our portion then be with the children of God, and our inheritance among the saints!

We beseech Thee to bless all our friends and relations. Pardon their sins; supply their temporal as well as spiritual wants; and conduct them safely through all the temptations and dangers of this evil world to the same land of everlasting rest and peace. Have mercy on all for whom we are bound to pray: succour the tempted; comfort the dejected; sustain those who are bowed down with age, or with infirmity, and are drawing near to death; have pity on all Thine afflicted servants, and enable them to believe, that whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth; and that through much tribulation they shall enter into the Kingdom of God. And give unto each of us grace to feel for the various wants of others, and to minister liberally to their relief.

We offer up these our humble and imperfect prayers in the name of our only Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The Grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-THIRD MORNING.

Blessed God, who hast caused the Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant unto us, we beseech Thee, such faith in the truth of Thy holy word, that we may be made partakers of Thine everlasting promises, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Dispose our minds to receive with meekness every doctrine which thou hast revealed; and save us from that spiritual blindness and ignorance which naturally overspread our minds. Teach us to know Thee our God: to adore Thee for Thy greatness; to admire Thee for Thy holiness; and to love Thee for Thy goodness to the children of men.

Open Thou our eyes, that we may perceive ourselves to be sinners in Thy sight,—partakers of a fallen nature, as well as actual transgressors against Thee: and make us to feel, that we stand in continual need, both of Thy pardoning mercy, and of Thy quickening grace. Enable us to receive Jesus Christ as the only Saviour of our souls; and, while we trust in the merits of His death, and in the efficacy of His intercession, let us acknowledge Him as our Lord, whom we are bound unreservedly to obey. Give us grace, also, to believe the awful threatenings of Thy word. Thou hast declared to us, that the day is coming when all who are in their

graves shall come forth,—they, that have done good, to the resurrection of life; and they, that have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. Help us to preserve in our minds the remembrance of this approaching Judgement, that we may not dare to sin against Thee, but may abound in all those fruits of holiness which Thou wilt acknowledge and approve in the Great Day of Jesus Christ.

And we pray Thee, O LORD, to dispose our minds to receive, with the true obedience of faith, every part of Thy holy word. May it be made profitable to us for doctrine, for correction, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness; that we may be thoroughly furnished for every good work. May we be prepared by it, not only for this our daily employment of prayer, and praise, and thanksgiving, but for all the duties of our Christian calling. May we keep continually in our minds those things which we have learnt; and, putting on the whole armour of GOD, may we be enabled to stand fast in every evil day; and to overcome the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

Defend us, O LORD, we most humbly beseech Thee, from all evil. Save us from the sins which most easily beset us. Let us command our tempers, and restrain our tongues. Let us add to our faith, virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity. Let us be rich in

good works, to the praise and glory of Thy name. And, while we are thus receiving Thy truths into an honest heart, and are endeavouring, by Thy grace assisting us, to walk according to the precepts of Thy written word; may Thy Providence direct our steps in life, and watch over us, for good. Defend us, we beseech Thee, to the end of our lives; and let Thy good Spirit abide within us, that we may not faint in our Christian course, nor become weary of well doing.

We pray for Thy blessing on our friends and relations. May they walk by the light of the same blessed gospel. May both they and we possess, in this world, knowledge of Thy truth; and, in the world to come, life everlasting.

We offer up these and all our supplications in the name of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-FOURTH MORNING.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, through whose providential goodness we are now permitted to see the light of another day, grant unto us grace to devote the lives which Thou lengthenest, to Thy service.

Assist us this day, in all the duties to which we

shall be called; and direct us to those employments which shall be fittest for us. Thou hast appointed unto every man his work in life: help us to be faithful and diligent in our calling; to be, at the same time, cheerful and contented with our lot; and, amidst all our earthly occupations, to be mindful of a better world. Deliver us from all those anxieties and cares by which we are too apt to be disturbed.

We desire to remember that our life is as a shadow which soon passeth away; and that the difficulties and trials, which we must meet with here, will soon cease for ever. Teach us, also, moderation in our temporal enjoyments. May we chiefly desire those spiritual blessings which bring comfort to the soul. O grant unto us pardon of our sins, and a true faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. Enable us to lay hold on the promises of Thy gospel; and to delight ourselves with the sense of Thy favour here, and with the hope of eternal life hereafter. And make all things to work together for our good. Be Thou pleased so to order the events of our lives, that we may see continual reason to praise Thee for Thy dispensations towards us; and thus, being guided by Thy providence, and sanctified by Thy Spirit, may we attain at length to the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls.

We pray, also, for all our dear friends and relations. Pardon, O Lord, their trespasses and sins;

and make them partakers of the promises of Christ in His gospel. Lead them through their various temptations and trials:—make them happy in themselves; and blessings to us, and to all around them. Have pity on the sons and daughters of affliction:—sanctify to them their troubles in this life; and teach them to rejoice in the LORD amidst all their worldly tribulation. Bless the rising generation; and may there be never wanting in this land a seed to serve thee.

We pray, especially, that the children of this family may be brought up in Thy fear. May the Lord save them from this evil world. May the Lord "strengthen, stablish, and settle" them; and, after a life full of good works, give them an abundant entrance into His heavenly kingdom.

We present these our imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our ever-blessed Redeemer.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-FIFTH MORNING.

ALMIGHTY, AND EVER BLESSED GOD, who art the Father of all the families of the earth, and the ever-present help of those who put their trust in Thee—who hast sustained us amidst the weakness of infancy; hast guided us in youth; and preserved us during our advancing years;—who, by Thy provi-

dence, hast united us in one household ;—Who hast supplied our wants, and abundantly provided, as well for our bodies, as for our souls ;—Who hast delivered us from some of the scenes of temptation, and of sorrow, to which we see others exposed ; and permittest us to lie down, and rise up, in peace and safety :—We are now met together to thank Thee for the mercies of the past night, and to acknowledge that it is by Thy power and goodness alone that we are preserved from day to day. O Lord, protect us this day from evil. Go Thou forth with us to the several duties of our stations ; and enable us to do all things in Thy fear, and to Thy glory.

We beseech Thee to put Thy Spirit into our hearts, that we may not depart from Thee ; nor forget any of Thy commandments. May we serve Thee with humble, patient, and quiet minds ; and may our love abound both towards Thee, and towards all men. Deliver us from those angry tempers to which our natures are so prone ; and from all those sins which war against the soul. And may we grow in grace :—may we, more and more, prevail over the temptations by which we have formerly been overcome. May we lay aside every weight, and the sins which have most easily beset us ; ever looking unto Him who is the Author and Finisher of our faith, and pressing towards the mark of the prize of our high calling, in Christ Jesus. May we remember that, in due time, we shall reap if we faint

not; and may we be stedfast, immoveable, always abounding in the work of the LORD;—may we be faithful, even unto death; knowing that our labour shall not be in vain in the LORD.

We pray for Thy special blessing on the employments in which we shall this day engage. May we undertake nothing which is contrary to Thy will; and may our good endeavours be crowned by Thee with success. We would remember, that, without Thee, we can do nothing:—that, without the concurrence of Thy providence, we can fulfil no purpose of our minds; and that we can do nothing spiritually good without the aid of Thy grace:—unto Thee, therefore, let our eyes be continually lifted up.

Bless, O LORD, every member of this family. *Grant unto the children a spirit of docility and obedience:* and make every servant to know the duties of his station, and to maintain a conscience void of offence: and may none of us forget Thee our GOD, nor be indifferent to the great and glorious hope which Thou hast set before us. O grant, that, in all our works begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may each of us glorify Thy holy name; and, finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Have mercy on all our friends and relations. Pity the poor and the afflicted. Give peace to those who are troubled in mind; and supply the various necessities of all thy creatures.

We ask all these blessings in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-SIXTH MORNING.

ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL GOD! We beseech Thee to pour down Thy blessing on us Thy servants, who are now assembled to worship Thy holy name.

Thou art infinitely great and glorious! Before Thee, the angels veil their faces; and the heavens are not pure in Thy sight! We are weak, and helpless; sinful, and corrupt; exposed to dangers on every side, and in continual need of Thy gracious assistance. O LORD, preserve us through this day. By Thee we have been protected during the night. Continue to us Thy wonted care; and guard, we pray Thee, both our bodies and our souls from every kind of evil.

We are now entering on the duties of our several callings. May the LORD enable each of us to be faithful and diligent in them; as those who must hereafter "give account of all things done in the body," to Him who is the judge of quick and dead. We desire to remember that Thine eye seeth us wheresoever we are; and pierceth even into our inmost thoughts. We pray, there-

fore, that all our most secret ways may be pleasing unto Thee, O Thou searcher of hearts! Let us not attempt to deceive either ourselves, or those around us, by the mere appearance of goodness; but may we have the testimony of our consciences, that, in simplicity and godly sincerity, we have our conversation in the world. Give us grace to overcome our sinful appetites and passions; to mortify our pride; and to bring every member of our bodies, and every faculty of our souls, into captivity to the law of Christ. May we put away all hatred and variance, all anger and strife, all malice and evil-speaking; and may this day be a day of peace and harmony to every member of this family; that so, when we assemble again to worship Thee at night, our prayers may be accepted, being the offering of those who dwell together in love; and who have learnt to forgive one another, even as they hope to be forgiven.

We pray Thee to bless the events which shall befall us on this day. Thou, O Lord, orderest all things for us; and we know not what a day may bring forth. O sanctify to us our prosperity, and our adversity; our sickness, and our health; our daily comforts and enjoyments, as well as our anxieties and disappointments. Purify our hearts, more and more, by the various dispensations of Thy providence; and fit us by the several vicissitudes of this mortal life, for that great and final change which we must soon experience.

We desire, also, to pay unto Thee our grateful thanks for Thy past mercies. Thou hast sustained us in our infancy; hast guided us in youth; and hast preserved us during our advancing years. Thou hast often raised us when we have been brought low:—Thou hast succoured us in trouble; hast delivered us in sickness; and healed all our infirmities. While others have fallen, we have been kept alive. Day after day, we remain the monuments of Thy mercy; and comforts surround us on every side. O Lord, we bless Thy name for what is past; and we pray, that the remembrance of Thy goodness may lead us to repentance; and may make us careful to walk according to Thy will, for the days which are yet to come. Pardon our many offences; and grant us perfect remission of our sins, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

We further beseech Thee to bestow Thy blessing on our dear friends and relations. Thou hast encouraged and commanded us to intercede for one another; and we desire, therefore, most earnestly to commend to Thy fatherly care, all those whom it is our duty to remember in our prayers. We entreat Thee to be merciful to those who have at any time shown us mercy:—to pity the poor and the afflicted—to strengthen the weak—and to comfort the desponding mind. Have mercy on the rising generation. Save them from the follies and ignorances of their youth; and raise them up to

be a seed to serve Thee, when we shall be gathered to our fathers.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our prayers and intercessions, for the sake of our only Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-SEVENTH MORNING.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art the Author of our being, the Preserver of our lives, and the Giver of every blessing which we enjoy ;—unto Thee do we now direct our prayer, beseeching Thee this day to supply our returning wants and necessities. Grant unto us all things needful both for the body and soul : and, especially, vouchsafe unto us pardon of our sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We confess, that we are unworthy of Thy favour ; for we have continually trespassed against Thee : but Thou art good, and gracious, unto those who freely acknowledge their transgressions, and cast themselves on Thy mercy. O Lord, we pray, that we, being delivered from the fear of Thy wrath, through a lively faith in Jesus Christ Thy Son, may serve Thee with cheerful and quiet

minds; and may partake in all the consolations of Thy Spirit, as well as walk in the way of Thy commandments.

We pray for integrity and diligence in our several callings. May we this day remember that Thine eye is upon us. May we carefully avoid hypocrisy, and deceit, and every approach to dishonesty and unfaithfulness. May we, also, watch against pride, and vanity; against envy, and hatred; against selfishness, and covetousness; and against whatsoever sin may most easily beset us. May we each fulfil our proper work with humility of mind; and approve ourselves not only to those around us, but to Thee, O God, who searchest the heart.

May we, likewise, exercise fervent charity towards all men. Teach us to weep with them that weep, and to rejoice with them that rejoice; and to minister, to the utmost of our opportunities and abilities, to the various wants of our fellow-creatures: following the example of our Lord and Saviour, who hath taught us that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." And grant unto us grace in every respect to adorn by our lives that holy gospel which we profess.

We pray Thee, also, to guide our future steps. Be Thou our constant helper and defender, ordaining for us that condition in life which shall most conduce to our eternal welfare. If Thou sendest trouble, impart unto us strength to bear it; and save us from those temptations which might prove the

occasion of our falling. If prosperity be our lot, give us grace to be thankful for it; and to use with moderation our several enjoyments. May we remember that the time is short—that our light affliction is but for a moment—that our earthly pleasures, also, will soon be past—that all the glory of man is but as the flower of the grass—and that the fashion of this world passeth away.

We would, further, intercede with Thee in behalf of our friends and relations. Bless them in their persons, in their families, and in all their undertakings. Grant unto them the comforts of Thy grace here; and make them finally partakers of glory everlasting. We implore Thee to bestow Thy special favour on the rising generation. Save them from the contagion of this vain and evil world. Watch over them during the weakness and inexperience of their youth; and prepare them for the duties to which Thy providence shall call them.

We commend to Thy fatherly care the poor, and destitute; the prisoner, and captive; the sick, and the afflicted. Send help from above to those who are under sore temptations:—strengthen the feeble knees, and raise up those who have fallen:—and teach us all to exercise patience and forbearance and loving kindness towards each other.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers in the name of our only Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.—The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-EIGHTH MORNING.

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, who art the giver of all good things, we desire to thank Thee for Thy mercies during the past night, and for all the numberless blessings which we enjoy. We would begin this day with Thy solemn worship; thus acknowledging Thine hand in the bounties of Thy providence, and professing our gratitude and obedience unto Thee. We would, also, praise Thee for the gift of Jesus Christ Thy Son, by whom we obtain pardon of sin and all things necessary for our everlasting salvation. Adored be Thy name that Thou hast not left us in ignorance of Thee; but hast given us Thy holy word; and hast caused us to abound with the means of grace. We would daily remember these Thy spiritual gifts; and we would now resolve to spend this day in a manner worthy of our Christian profession.

Assist us, O Lord, by Thy Holy Spirit, to bring these our prayers to good effect. Strengthen us against our temptations:—direct us in every difficulty:—comfort us in all our sorrows, and adversities; and enable us to fulfil every part of that Christian duty in which we have been instructed. May we love our neighbour as ourselves; and do unto all men as we would that they should do unto us. May we honour and obey the King, and all who are put in authority under him. May we

submit ourselves to all our governors and teachers. May we hurt nobody by word or deed. May we be true and just in all our dealings, and bear no malice or hatred in our hearts. May we keep our hands from stealing, and our tongues from evil speaking, lying, and slandering. May we preserve our bodies in temperance, soberness, and chastity. May we not covet other men's goods; but learn, and labour truly, to get our living; and to do our duty in that state of life to which it hath pleased God to call us.

Pardon all our negligence in time past; and give us grace continually to examine ourselves; and to amend our lives according to Thy holy word.

We desire to add our humble supplications for all those whom it is our duty to remember in our prayers. Have compassion on the poor and the afflicted:—send them help, O Lord, in their hour of need; and sustain them with Thy heavenly consolations, when all human aid shall fail. We pray for the young and the ignorant:—may they be instructed in the way in which they ought to walk; and may they become instruments by which the knowledge of Thee and of Thy Son Jesus Christ shall extend to distant generations.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our imperfect prayers, which we humbly present to Thee, in the name of our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIRST SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and ever-blessed GOD! Thou art the king eternal, immortal, and invisible; Thou sittest in the highest heavens; and art exalted above all blessing and praise:—before Thee the angels veil their faces; and the heavens are not pure in Thy sight. Thou didst create all things:—Thou upholdest all things:—Thou sustainest the lives of the creatures whom Thou hast made:—And Thou governest all events by Thine unceasing providence. Thou art continually present with us; and seest the secrets of all hearts; and Thou wilt hereafter bring every work into judgement, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

We bless Thee, that, of Thy great goodness, Thou hast sent Thy Son Jesus Christ to redeem for ever from death and hell our immortal souls, which were made in Thine own image; and that Thou hast given us an assurance of our own resurrection by raising Him from the dead on the third day.

We praise Thee for these Thy sabbaths, on which we maintain a perpetual commemoration of this victory of our once crucified and now ascended LORD; and are continually instructed by the ministers of His gospel in all things which concern our everlasting salvation. Grant, we beseech Thee, that we may this day hear Thy sacred word, with

reverence and holy fear, with serious and deep attention, and with all humility and thankfulness. Enable us to join in the prayers of Thy people with devout and contrite hearts; and be Thou pleased so to bless both our public worship, and our private meditations, that we may be made partakers of Thine everlasting promises in Christ Jesus, and may advance in all holiness.

O Lord, strengthen our faith on this day by means of those religious exercises in which we shall engage :—deliver us from every slavish fear of Thy wrath ;—fix our hope on our ever blessed Redeemer ;—and give us joy and peace in believing. Let us love Thee for the unnumbered bounties of Thy providence; and, especially, for Thy mercies in our redemption through Jesus Christ our Lord. Give us an increasing sense of our unworthiness, and a clearer knowledge of those peculiar sins which most easily beset us; that we may more fully comprehend the riches of Thy grace in Christ; and may, also, better know how to reform that which hath been evil in us. We pray, that Thy Gospel may from time to time be so delivered to us, that we may grow in all wisdom. Suffer not that any of us should continue self-deceived. Let not death overtake us unprepared; but do Thou, by Thy Holy Spirit, give such effect to the preaching of Thy word, and to all other means of grace, that we may each of us heartily repent, and unfeignedly believe, and bring forth abundantly

fruits meet for repentance, to the praise and glory of Thy name.

Let Thy blessing every where accompany the preaching of Thy gospel on this day. May the God of Grace pour forth the abundance of His Spirit on the ministers and on the hearers. May they who have lived in sin be awakened to a sense of their danger. May the unbelievers be convinced; the thoughtless be alarmed; and the weak be strengthened. May the young be guided in the right way; and the afflicted soul be comforted. May the foundation of Thine universal Church be enlarged; and may believers be built up in faith, and hope, and love; and learn to understand what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Bestow Thy special blessing on those who are labouring to extend in foreign lands the knowledge of a crucified Redeemer. Assist them by Thy providence and grace, that they may contend successfully against idolatry and superstition. Strengthen them by Thy Holy Spirit; and, in the midst of all their difficulties and trials, impart unto them the abundance of Thy consolations. Open the hearts of many to receive Thy gospel in the love of it. Let every wilderness at length blossom as the rose. Let the light spring up to them who have long sat in darkness; and let the days come when the lion shall lie down with the lamb, when

wars shall cease, and the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our prayers and intercessions, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SECOND SUNDAY MORNING.

Almighty and everlasting God, who didst make man in Thine own image; and, when he had fallen from his first estate, didst send Thy Son from heaven to save him;—and who hast appointed the ministers of Thy word to preach repentance, and remission of sins; and to bring all men to the obedience of faith;—we pray Thee to give us grace this day to hear with reverence Thy holy word, and to profit by Thy sacred ordinances.

We would enter upon the duties of the Sabbath, humbly beseeching Thee to impress our minds with an earnest desire of those things which concern our salvation. Deliver us from the love of this world; and from that multitude of anxieties and cares, to which, through the sinfulness and frailty of our nature, we are continually prone. Elevate our thoughts to things above:—convince us of the

shortness of time, and of the value of eternity; of the uncertainty of this our mortal state; and of the near approach of that day when we shall give account of all things done in the body; and shall hear from Thee our eternal doom. O LORD, what is our life:—it is but as a watch in the night:—it is as a vapour that vanisheth away:—it is as the grass of the field, which in the evening is cut down and withered. But, while we feel and know that we must shortly die, and that here all is vanity and vexation of spirit, we desire to bless Thy holy name, that, however few and evil may be the days of our pilgrimage, Thou hast provided us with many great and glorious hopes, which, we trust, shall issue in the final gift of everlasting life.

O grant us grace to lay hold on these promises which are set before us; and to give all diligence, that we may make our calling and election sure; and thus may that world, in which we dwell, become the door of entrance to a better state; the passage to a heavenly Canaan; the blessed means of bringing us to Thee, our Father, and to Jesus Christ our Saviour, to the whole company of angels, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.

We pray Thee to make the present Sabbath instrumental to this holy end. May we examine ourselves, and repent of our sins, and renew our vows of obedience to Thee. May we shake off our indolence, and self-indulgence; and learn, more and

more, to walk in the spirit, and to mortify the whole body of sin. And while we thus strive to purify our souls through the love of the truth, may Thy preached word come to us with increasing power, and with demonstration of the Spirit, and with much assurance. May we grow in the knowledge of Thee and of Thy Son Jesus Christ :—may we abound more and more in faith, and hope, and love :—and may these holy seasons prepare us for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

O Lord, go forth with us this day to Thy public worship; and pour down upon us Thy Holy Spirit. Repress our vain imaginations. Dispose our minds to prayer, and praise; and to fervent gratitude for Thy temporal, as well as spiritual mercies. Help us to commemorate Thy redeeming love; and to renew our exercise of faith in Him who died for our sins, and rose again for our justification.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to bless the preaching of Thy gospel on this day to all who shall be the hearers of it. Send forth Thy light and Thy truth to every part of our benighted world; and shower down, especially on these nations, the abundance of Thy grace, through the diligent and faithful ministry of Thy word among us. Purify every part of Thy professing Church. Unite us in the bonds of a common faith; and teach us all to love one another.

Give success to every endeavour to enlighten the ignorant; to relieve the poor; to comfort the

afflicted; to deliver the oppressed from him who spoileth him; and to promote peace and good will among men. Pour into the hearts of all who know Thy truth a spirit of enlarged benevolence; and raise up many who shall go forth in Thy strength, both to multiply their deeds of charity, and to carry Thy gospel into all lands.

We offer these our humble and earnest supplications in the name of Jesus Christ, our blessed and only Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRD SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY LORD OUR GOD, Creator of all things, Judge of all men, who art also the merciful Father of all Thy creatures, we adore Thee for Thy great goodness, in providing not only for our temporal necessities, but also for the spiritual wants of our souls.

We thank Thee for Thy holy word, by which we are instructed in Thy will, and are made wise unto salvation. We thank Thee for all the means of grace which Thou hast appointed for our edification. We thank Thee, also, for these Thy sabbaths,

on which our thoughts are called away from the cares and employments of this present life to the consideration of those things which are eternal.

Grant, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that we may not neglect those great religious advantages which we possess; but may we attend reverently to the truths which we shall this day hear; and worship Thee, with truly humble and contrite hearts. Prepare our minds to receive the seed which shall this day be sown in them; and suffer not that we should give way to wandering thoughts, and to an indolent and worldly spirit. May we remember when we are in the house of God, in whose service we are engaged; and whose word it is that we hear; and, when Thy gospel is preached, may we be so awed by the terrors of the Lord, and so affected by the sense of Thy mercy, that we may lay to heart those things which we hear; and may none of us receive this grace of God in vain. And when we return from Thy house, dispose us all to consider our ways. Let us turn our thoughts to whatever hath been amiss in us during the past week:—let us implore Thy mercy in our secret prayers:—and let us read with care Thy holy scriptures.

O Lord, help us to consider how few are our days on earth; and how soon we may be called to give up our account of the privileges which we have enjoyed, and of the talents committed to us. We have only a short and uncertain life between

us, and—eternal happiness, or misery. O let us now redeem the time, before the day of our death shall come, and our sentence be sealed everlastingly. Let us make haste to obey Thy voice:—let us be diligent in endeavouring to know Thy will; and to understand the doctrines of Thy gospel. And to this end may Thy Spirit enlighten and direct us:—guide us into all truth:—save us from all ignorance, and blindness, and hardness of heart:—preserve us from those delusions which are fatal to the soul. Let us not speak peace to ourselves when there is no peace; nor hope that we have an interest in Christ, when we have not repented of our sins, and have no true faith in His name. O LORD, produce in us sincere repentance. If we are yet living in sin, show us, we pray Thee, our danger;—make us to understand both our own sinfulness, and Thy mercy; and lead us to that Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world.

Bless, we pray Thee, the ministers of Thy gospel. Do Thou give great success to their labours. May they, by the word which they shall deliver, awaken those who are yet dead in their sins; and may they convince the wavering; and establish the weak; and comfort the feeble-minded; and raise up those who are fallen; and may Thy true servants be built up in their most holy faith, and be made perfect in every good work.

Hear us, O most merciful LORD, in these our

humble supplications, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTH SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who didst send Thine only Son into the world to die upon the cross, and to become a propitiation for sin, and hast promised to all who repent and believe in Him, that they shall be made heirs of eternal life; —grant unto us such humble and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our mis-deeds, may be made partakers of that blessed hope, which is set before us in Jesus Christ.

We also beseech Thee to grant us Thine Holy Spirit, that we may not continue to transgress Thy laws, nor harden our hearts in unbelief. Turn us, O LORD, from our evil ways. Teach us, while we adore Thee for Thy redeeming mercy, to live to the praise of that Saviour who hath died for us. May we remember that He, who descended from heaven to save us from condemnation, came also "to redeem us from all iniquity, and to purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." May we have grace to walk according to His ex-

ample, and to do whatever is pleasing in Thy sight.

We pray Thee to send Thy blessed gospel over the world. Put an end to infidelity and atheism, to superstition and false religion, to heresy and schism, to ignorance and vice, and to war and discord. Let the nations of the earth receive Thy truth in the love of it; and, being reconciled to Thee through Jesus Christ, may they live in peace and unity.

We also pray Thee to purify Thy professing church in this land. We would lament the iniquity even of our holy things; and would beseech Thee to strengthen the faith of Thy servants, and to enlarge their charity, that they, being examples of holiness, may lead others, who "see their good works, to glorify their Father which is in heaven."

We implore Thy blessing on all the faithful preachers of Thy word. May Thy grace both prevent and follow them; and may they eminently adorn, by their lives, that holy doctrine which they teach.

Look down in mercy on the rising generation. Put into the hearts of parents and teachers zeal for the spiritual good of those over whom Thou hast placed them. Give them wisdom from above, that they may know how to inculcate true and strict religion; and open the minds of the young, that they may receive instruction with a teachable spirit; and, as they grow in years, may advance

not only in useful knowledge, but in all virtue, and godliness of life.

And, finally, we intercede with Thee in behalf of the poor and the afflicted. Do Thou, who art the God of all consolation, provide for them. Send down help from above in every hour of their need; and turn their earthly trials and tribulations to their eternal good. Incline those who are in prosperity, to remember all who are in trouble. Teach as many as are rich in this world, to be ready to communicate; and those who are strong to bear with the infirmities of the weak. Into Thine hands, O Lord, we now commit ourselves, and all who are dear to us; beseeching Thee to hear these our imperfect prayers and intercessions, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our ever blessed Redeemer.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTH SUNDAY MORNING.

O Lord God Almighty, who didst in the beginning create the heavens and the earth; who rulest the world by Thine unceasing providence, and orderest all the affairs of men; who hast made us what we are, and hast appointed the time, and the place of our existence; we thank Thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this

life;—We bless Thee, that Thou hast not made the wilderness our habitation, nor a barren land our dwelling-place; but that Thou hast placed us in the midst of plenty, and of enjoyment.

We also adore Thee, that Thou hast given us immortal souls; and that Thou hast made Thyself known unto us, both by the works of Thine hand, and by the express revelation of Thy word. We praise Thee, that, while the heavens declare Thy glory, and the firmament showeth thy handy-work, Jesus Christ hath also descended from heaven, and hath, still more, revealed Thy grace unto us. We rejoice that Thy power, and Thy greatness, and the excellency of Thy wisdom, and also Thine unspeakable love and mercy to the creatures which Thou hast made, have been declared to us. We adore Thee for all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge which are in Jesus Christ; especially for the pardon of our sins through faith in His name; and for the hope which is laid up for us in heaven through His gospel.

But we desire to lament, O Lord, that we have not rendered unto Thee according to the greatness and multitude of Thy mercies; for we have walked after the way of our own hearts, and have suffered Thine exceeding grace and goodness to be forgotten by us. Help us, therefore, with unfeigned sorrow, and contrition of heart, to acknowledge our offences against Thee. We confess our worldliness, and thoughtlessness of thee; our coldness,

and indifference in Thy service; our pride, our ambition, and our covetousness. We also acknowledge and lament our too irritable tempers and angry passions; and our too great readiness to justify ourselves and to find fault with others. We confess our indolence, our waste of time, and our frequent negligence in our employments. We confess, also, all the various sins of our tongues; our hasty, sudden, as well as flattering and deceitful words. We confess the want of purity and holiness in our secret thoughts and imaginations. We now pray Thee, O God, to pardon our iniquities for the sake of that Saviour in whom Thou hast invited us to trust. And, while we exercise this faith, may we condemn ourselves on account of our transgressions; may we resolve to forsake them, and to walk henceforth in newness of life.

O God, strengthen us, we pray Thee, by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may not fall again under the power of our temptations; but that all our ways may be pleasing in Thy sight. O suffer not, that we, who are the hearers of Thy word, should not be doers of it, lest we fall into tenfold condemnation. May we remember Thine awful punishments denounced against the ungodly, as well as the glorious recompence of reward laid up for those who seek for it by patient continuance in well-doing. May we, therefore, lay aside every weight, and the sins which do most easily beset us. May

we be faithful and diligent; may we put on the whole armour of God; and may we fight manfully under the banners of our Saviour, against the world, the flesh, and the Devil; remembering, that to him that overcometh, He will give a crown of life.

Bless unto us the preaching of Thy word this day. Grant that it may sink into all our hearts; and may make us anxious to please Thee, and mindful of our latter end. And whensoever we may come to die, we pray that no terrors may then dismay us; but that we may have so repented of our sins, while we were in life and in health, and have so obeyed the voice of God in His gospel, that, trusting in the mercies of Him who hath died for us, we may yield up our departing spirit to God who gave it, in the hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIRST SUNDAY EVENING.

Almighty and everlasting God, we bless Thee for Thy great goodness, in creating, and preserving, and redeeming us; and for all Thy various mercies from our birth unto this hour. We adore Thee as the author of all things; but, especially,

as our Father and our friend, the God of our lives, the source of our hopes, and the giver of all spiritual as well as temporal good.

We desire to praise Thee on this Thy holy day, for the gift of Jesus Christ Thy Son, by whom we obtain pardon of sin, and all things necessary for our eternal salvation. We thank Thee, that He hath descended into this our world; that He hath set us an example by His holy life; hath made atonement for us by His painful death; and, by His resurrection from the grave on the third day, hath given utterance, that He is able to raise our bodies from the dust, and to exalt us to His own right hand in the kingdom of heaven.

We pray Thee, O Lord, to impress deeply on our minds, these great and solemn truths, that we may not forget them amidst the cares and occupations of the world, but may be daily reminded of our Christian privileges, as well as of the duties to which we are called. Convince us of the vanity of the world, of the shortness of life, and of the unspeakable importance of eternity. Save us from indifference, and thoughtlessness, and levity, as well as from wickedness and sin. Purify our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit; and teach us habitually to remember that Thou seest our secret thoughts, and requirest truth in the inward parts.

Pardon, we pray Thee, the multitude of our sins in times past,—our pride and vanity, our covetousness and worldliness, our anger and passion, our

indolence and negligence, our too careless performance of the duties of our station, and our want of Christian kindness and brotherly love. Pardon, especially, our forgetfulness of Thee, our God; for how seldom have we thought of Thee, how coldly have we worshipped Thee, how little have we honoured Thee as we ought! Thou hast caused us to abound with the good things of this life:—Thy hand hath protected us:—Thy goodness hath raised us, when, through sickness, or calamity, we have been brought low; and the knowledge of Thy mercies in Jesus Christ has been added to all Thine other blessings; so that we are under peculiar obligations to love and serve Thee, and to laud and magnify Thy holy name. O Lord, forgive our ingratitude to Thee our great Benefactor; and enable us to trust in Jesus Christ for the remission of every sin, as well as for the acceptance of those imperfect services which we would offer up unto Thee.

We pray Thee, O Lord, to send Thy blessed gospel over the world. May the nations hear the joyful sound; and may Thy kingdom come, and Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Bless the labours of Thy ministers in every place. Fill them with zeal for Thine honour and love to Thy name. May multitudes in this land repent and believe; and may the spirit of true religion both revive among ourselves, and overspread all lands. May Christ be preached from the rising to the setting

sun, and may each of us endeavour to recommend those truths which we have been taught, that there may be no occasion for the enemies of the gospel to blaspheme.

We would intercede for all our relations, connections, and friends; especially for those who are in sorrow, sickness, or trouble. Grant unto them those consolations which Thou only canst bestow. Put into their hearts a holy trust in Thee, and a sure hope in Thy promises. And may those, who feel that their infirmities come upon them, and that their outward frame decays, be enabled to believe, that, when earthly things fail, they shall have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Take us now, O God, under Thy gracious care this night. Let Thy blessing attend us; and Thy good Spirit rest upon us. May the words, which we have heard this day, sink into all our hearts; and may we, through the ensuing week, rise up, and lie down, at peace with Thee, and under a constant sense of Thy presence.

We offer up these our imperfect supplications in the name of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SECOND SUNDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, our Creator, and Preserver, and Redeemer, we would now enter into Thy sacred presence, under a deep sense of our weakness and unworthiness, and of Thine unspeakable greatness and majesty. We approach Thee, at the same time, as a GOD of goodness and mercy; for Thou hast made Thyself known to us in Jesus Christ Thy Son; and hast proclaimed pardon to every repenting sinner through faith in that sacrifice which He hath offered on the cross, for us, the guilty children of men. We desire to bless Thee for this strong foundation for our hope; and we would now address Thee in the full assurance of faith, renouncing all confidence in ourselves, rejoicing in Him who is become the hope of all the ends of the earth, and is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world;—who, having died for us, hath also risen again, and is now exalted at Thy right hand, where He ever liveth to make intercession for us.

We beseech Thee, O GOD, to accept for His sake, the imperfect worship which we have on this day offered up in Thy house. We implore Thee to bless to our continual good the instruction which we have this day heard. Having been taught to know Thy will may we be diligent to fulfil it. Thou hast given us line upon line and precept

upon precept; and hast placed us in the midst of light and knowledge. O grant unto us a true and lively faith in all the doctrines of Thy holy word, and a spirit of unreserved obedience to them.

We pray Thee to make us diligent and faithful in all the occupations of life to which in Thy providence we shall be called. Let us not live in indolence and self-indulgence; but let us endeavour to be useful in our generation. Let us be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Let us walk in Thy fear from day to day; and in all things aim to please our heavenly Father. Make us to be the same in secret which we would wish to be in public. We beseech Thee to inspire us with a spirit of Christian kindness to all around us. Thou hast been very bountiful and gracious to us. Thou hast multiplied our temporal comforts; and Thou hast pardoned our numberless transgressions. O grant, that we may follow the example of Thy beneficence; and that we may also be like Thee, ready to forgive. May we be watchful over ourselves, but tender towards the infirmities of others; full of meekness, and gentleness, and patience, and loving-kindness, and charity.

Enlighten us, O Lord, by Thy good Spirit, that we may exercise every holy temper, and understand every part of our Christian duty. Strengthen us in our seasons of trial and temptation; guide us through all the difficulties into which we may fall; and bless us in all the scenes of life through

which we may pass. If affliction should come upon us, inspire us with humble resignation to Thy will: Thou, O LORD, dost not willingly grieve the children of men: O visit us not in Thine indignation; but turn the mournful events of Thy providence to our spiritual and endless good.

Prepare us by all the events of life for our great and final change; for we know not how soon it may come upon us. May the appointment of Thy sabbaths, and the preaching of Thy word, may every opportunity of holy meditation, and of public, social, and secret prayer, and all the other means of edification, which we so abundantly possess, concur with the successive events of Thy wise and merciful providence, in so calling off our minds from this earthly scene, that we may be fitted for that everlasting state, on the borders of which we stand. May Thy good Spirit sustain and strengthen us in our last hours:—when the shadows of the evening shall come upon us, when age and sickness shall arrive, and human help shall fail, be Thou, O LORD, the strength of our hearts and our portion for evermore; and let an abundant entrance be ministered unto us into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

With these prayers for ourselves, we desire to join our intercessions for others also. Bless our lord the King, and all who are put in authority under him. Give wisdom to our houses of parliament; and inspire all orders of men with the

spirit of cheerful obedience to Thy laws. Save us from public war, as well as from intestine discord. Bless every attempt to spread Thy true gospel among the nations. Have mercy on all Jews, Turks, infidels, and heretics: and so bring them home, blessed LORD, to Thy flock, that they may be saved among the remnant of true Israelites: and crown with Thy continual blessing the labours of the ministers of Thy gospel in our own favoured country. Have mercy on all who are troubled in mind; or whom Thou hast visited with any sorrow. Grant unto them peace with Thee, through our Lord Jesus Christ; and let the light of Thy countenance be more than a compensation for every worldly sacrifice to which they are called.

Be favourable to the rising generation. Keep them from the follies and vanities of youth; and let them learn to walk in Thy fear, and in the way of Thy commandments.

And, finally, we beseech Thee to take us all under Thy protection this night. Grant unto these our frail bodies that refreshment which is needful for them; and enable us to lie down exercising a holy trust in Thee, and having fervent charity towards all men.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers in the name of our blessed Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRD SUNDAY EVENING.

O Lord, God Almighty, who understandest the secrets of every heart,—who art also a God of infinite perfection and purity, and claimest not only the outward service of Thy creatures, but requirest truth in the inward parts, we sinners, who, in thought, word, and deed, have offended against Thee, desire most humbly to confess our sins, and to implore Thy merciful forgiveness.

We pray Thee to assist us, by Thy Holy Spirit, to know wherein we have sinned against Thee. Give us a deep conviction of the necessity of seriously examining ourselves, and of comparing all our ways with the standard of Thy holy law, that we may thus become acquainted with our transgressions; and freely confessing them before that God whom we have offended, may obtain perfect remission through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

O Lord, we acknowledge that forgetfulness of Thee, and that rebellion of our hearts against Thee, which have been the cause of so many disorders in our lives. We have not honoured Thee as God: but have set up our own will as our law; choosing to follow our own vain imaginations. We have neglected Thy written word; we have not duly attended to the instructions of Thy ministers; we have been careless under the means of

grace ; and little anxious to improve the sabbath to our spiritual edification. Thou hast called to us by many dispensations of Thy providence, often reminding us of our latter end. Thou hast shown us the vanity of all our earthly hopes ; and hast taught us lessons of wisdom, both by the mercies, and by the afflictions, and all the various trials and disappointments with which Thou hast visited us. But we have too often repined at Thy dispensations instead of profiting by them ; and have complained of our condition in life, instead of turning our thoughts to a happier and better world. Or if Thou hast multiplied our comforts, how prone have we been to place our chief happiness in these, and not in Thee, who art the Giver! How many and various have been our sins, both secret and open, from our youth until this time. How many have been the sinful thoughts which we have indulged ; of which Thou, and Thou only, hast been the witness ; for which also, unless they are repented of in this world, Thou wilt call us to account in the Day of Judgement. How many rash and angry words also have we continually spoken. How often have we injured our neighbours, judging harshly of others, while we hope to be judged mercifully by Thee ;—not willing to forgive, though we ourselves hope to be forgiven.

We would confess, O Lord, the ungodliness of our hearts and lives, and the frequent impatience of our spirits. Thou hast appointed our lot in life,

and hast ordered all things concerning us: but how little have we adorned the stations in which Thou hast placed us!—how unfaithfully have we employed the talents entrusted to us; and how soon have we been weary in well-doing!

We pray Thee, O LORD, to make us duly sensible of all the sins, whereby we have offended against Thee; and give us grace to repent and turn to Thee; and to believe in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; and to walk in newness of life. We thank Thee, that, on each returning sabbath, there is forgiveness preached to us in our Saviour's name; that we are encouraged to confess our sins; to renew our repentance; and to call upon the Lord our God. And, O LORD, grant unto us, together with the pardon of our sins, that aid of Thy Spirit, that whatever truths we have heard this day, may make a serious and lasting impression; and that whatever sins have been this day brought to our remembrance, may be repented of and forsaken.

May we be enabled especially to contend against those sins which have most easily beset us. O LORD, bless us in the ensuing week. May it be spent in a manner worthy of our Christian profession and of these our supplications unto Thee. Be Thou our Counsellor, and Guide, and our Defender in whom we trust. Do Thou guard us throughout the week from all dangers, and continually keep us in all our ways. Do Thou main-

tain Thy grace in us; and bring us at length to Thine everlasting kingdom, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTH SUNDAY EVENING.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, we beseech Thee to accept the worship which we have rendered unto Thee on this Thy holy day. Give Thine abundant blessing to all the means of grace; and impart unto us a deep sense of those doctrines of Thy gospel which have been delivered to us. May they not only excite our hopes and fears, while the sound of them is yet in our ears; but may they be engraven on all our hearts by the power of Thine Holy Spirit.

Thou hast favoured us with many and great advantages. Thou hast given us Thy sabbaths. Thou hast enlightened us by Thy holy word. Thou hast sent us ministers instructed in Thy truths, and hast multiplied our opportunities of edification. Thou hast removed from us many obstacles which others meet with in their heavenly course, and hast made our way plain before us.

We bless Thee, O Lord, for these unspeakable mercies; but, we would rejoice with trembling;

knowing, that unto whom much is given, of them shall much be required. O LORD, grant unto us Thine Holy Spirit; to enlighten our darkness, to strengthen our weakness, and to supply all that is wanting in us for our spiritual necessities, and the everlasting salvation of our souls.

We beseech Thee to manifest to all our hearts the abounding grace and love of Christ; that we may be delivered from slavish fears, and may advance with cheerful and willing steps in the way of Thy commandments. Give us that hope, which is the anchor of the soul, sure and stedfast. Vouchsafe us that most excellent gift of charity, without which we are but as the sounding brass, and the tinkling cymbal. May we more plainly perceive, and more often reflect on the cause of our having so imperfectly obeyed Thee in times past:—O GOD, we have not loved Thee; and, therefore, we have not served Thee,—as we ought. Our hearts have been too cold, and insensible;—Christ our Saviour hath died for us; but we have remained little affected by all that He did and suffered for us.

O do Thou impress upon us those all powerful doctrines of Thy word which are able to draw our hearts to Thee: and especially, may redeeming love, that great theme of the Gospel, be the favourite subject of our meditation. And grant, O LORD, that, having learnt to love Thee for Thine unspeak-

able mercies in Jesus Christ, and having obtained an interest in His salvation, we may have the consolation of trusting, that we are safe in life, in death, and in eternity. May we pass through all the future scenes of life secure from the sins by which we have been overcome; and having surmounted some of the trials which once threatened us, may the recollection be an encouragement for us to hope, that we shall, in due time, triumph over them all.

Give us such a deep sense of our obligations to our blessed Saviour, and such a lively hope of immortal life through Him, that no temptations may prevail over us. May we be occupied, when our circumstances in life admit of retirement, by the hope of heaven, and the love of Christ; and when we are engaged in business in the world, may our love to Thee inspire us with such continual zeal in doing good, and such holy activity in our calling, that we may be preserved from those snares to which the careless and the profane are constantly exposed. And thus may we pass on through life: growing in grace; attached more and more to every principle of the Gospel; looking to the Author and Finisher of our faith; and anticipating a happy resurrection. O may we hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; and, in the ensuing week, may we remember, what this day we have been taught; and may we obtain of

Thee, by daily prayer, the constant aid of Thy heavenly grace: we ask it for Jesus Christ our Saviour's sake.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTH SUNDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY, and most merciful GOD, who hast encouraged and commanded us in Thy word, both to make known our wants and to confess our sins unto Thee,—we desire now to approach the throne of Thy grace, deeply sensible of our manifold necessities, and imploring Thy forgiving mercy.

We beseech Thee to have compassion upon us for the sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ. Blessed be Thy name for this great Mediator between God and man; through whom alone we hope for acceptance in our prayers; and for all things necessary both for the body and soul. We have sinned grievously against Thee: we have trespassed in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone that which we ought to have done; as well as done that which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. We cannot tell how often we have offended. O LORD, cleanse Thou us from our secret faults. Teach us to know ourselves, that we may more fully understand our great unworthiness; and more

entirely rely on Thy grace in Jesus Christ. We would especially lament the sins of the past week. We profess day by day to amend our lives; but we too often leave a great part of our duty unperformed: we yield to indolence and negligence; to selfishness and covetousness; to our evil tempers, and to many sins which have most easily beset us; and our daily repentance is incomplete. Assist us now to acknowledge, with deep contrition of soul, the guilt which we have incurred; that we may obtain perfect remission through that Saviour in whom Thou hast encouraged us to hope. And grant unto us, for His sake, the gift of Thy Holy Spirit; that we may be enabled to advance in our Christian course, and prevail over the enemies of our souls. Save us from the world, the flesh, and the Devil. Give us strength, that we may fight under the banners of our Saviour; and may be made more than conquerors over every temptation. May we become habitually fearful of sinning agaiust Thee, and diligent in every good work.

We beseech Thee to grant Thy blessing to the words which we have heard this day; that they may be grafted inwardly in all our hearts; and may bring forth in us the fruit of good living. May our faith be strengthened by every religious exercise in which we engage; and may the successive sabbaths, with which we are favoured here on earth, prepare us for an eternal sabbath, in Thine immediate presence in heaven.

Give success to every endeavour which has been made on this day to bring sinners to repentance. O let Thy name be known on earth, Thy saving health to all nations. May they who sit in darkness behold the Sun of Righteousness arise; and may Thy word every where be glorified!

We pray for all who are appointed to dispense Thy truth. Do Thou, O LORD, so enlighten them by Thy grace, that they may be able to instruct others, and lead them safely forward in the way of everlasting life.

Have mercy on the land in which we live. Bless our King. Direct the consultations of our Houses of Parliament. Inspire our magistrates with integrity, and our people with the spirit of obedience. Have pity on the poor and the afflicted. Bestow Thy blessing on the rising generation. May they be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and advance not only in useful knowledge, but in all virtue and godliness of life.

Finally, we pray for our Christian friends, and for all our dear relations. Being united in the bonds of Christian love, may we all seek each other's welfare, and bear each other's burthens, and thus fulfil the law of Christ. May those, who are strong, have grace to bear with the infirmities of the weak; and may we severally minister to each other's necessities, according to our opportunity and ability.

We present these our imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.—The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIRST EVENING.

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, who art the Creator of all things, and the Judge of all men, we Thy creatures, who live upon Thy daily bounty, and are accountable to Thee for all we do, desire now to offer up our acknowledgments of Thy goodness during the past day, and to implore Thy forgiving mercy.

We would lament the trespasses which we have this day committed. Thou seest, O Lord, all our hearts. We are blind and ignorant, prone to error, yet impatient of reproof. We often deceive ourselves with the mere appearance of goodness; but Thou knowest every false way in which we allow ourselves to walk. Pardon, we beseech Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake, whatever evil we have either said, or thought, or done, on this day. Pardon all the multitude of our iniquities. Teach us continually to examine our lives by the light of Thine unerring word; and vouchsafe unto us true repentance, and faith in Jesus Christ.

We pray Thee, also, to pour out upon us the gift of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may amend our ways, and walk in newness of life. Thou hast favoured us with much religious knowledge, and with many means of grace. O let us remember, that unto whom much is given, of them shall much

be required. Let us not live, as the children of this world, employing our time in vain and unprofitable things; but let us endeavour to be useful in that station in which Thou hast placed us. As we have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so let us walk in Him. May we excel especially in those tempers, and abound in those works which His gospel has required. May we be full of meekness and patience, of kindness and forbearance, of benevolence and charity. Being established in the love of God, may we also love our neighbour with a pure heart, fervently. Let us not have a name to live, while we are dead; or possess only that faith which is without works, and can profit neither ourselves nor those around us; but let us abound in all the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, to the praise and glory of God.

We also beseech Thee to bless unto us the events of Thy providence; and so to order all things, during the remainder of our lives, that they may issue in our eternal good. We know not what a day may bring forth. O sanctify unto us our prosperity and adversity; our sickness and our health; and whatever may be the vicissitudes which Thou art pleased to send, may we consider them as coming from Thy fatherly hand, and never repine under them. May we maintain a cheerful and contented mind; and being reconciled to Thee our God, may we enjoy peace within ourselves, and be in charity with all men.

These our imperfect supplications we present in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SECOND EVENING.

O Lord, God Almighty, who knowest all things, and understandest the secrets of every heart, suit Thy mercies, we pray, to our necessities; and grant unto all the members of this family such things as Thou seest to be most needful for us.

We pray Thee especially to bring our hearts into full obedience to Thy gospel. Take away from us all pride, impenitency, and unbelief; all undue love of this present world, all inordinate affection, and every evil inclination. Take from us every thing which opposes itself to the knowledge of Thy truth; and is contrary to the Spirit of Thy grace.

May we humble ourselves as children in Thy sight; receiving, in sincerity and simplicity of heart, the various doctrines of Thy word. Give us, also, grace to maintain a Christian spirit, and to abound in every good work. May we be patient, and contented, thankful for our lot in life; praising and blessing Thee for all our providential as well as spiritual mercies; imploring the conti-

nuance of Thy favour; and jealous over ourselves, lest, by any evil habits which we indulge, we draw down Thine anger upon us. Make us strict in our integrity, sincere in every word, faithful in every trust, diligent in every duty, amiable in every temper of our lives. May we be zealous to do honour to the cause of Thy gospel, and thus to recommend the religion of Christ.

O teach us to exercise all those virtues which shone so brightly in our LORD. At the same time, may we remember our exceeding sinfulness; and thus learn to bear with all the various infirmities of others. Give us grace, also, to testify on suitable occasions our abhorrence of evil; and give us courage and integrity to exhort one another daily, lest any of us be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin; and teach us, in the spirit of love, to serve and edify one another.

And now, O LORD, wherever on this day we have failed in the performance of our duty, and in the exercise of any Christian temper, or wherever we have in any respect offended Thee, we implore Thy pardon, in the name of JESUS CHRIST.

Take us under Thy protection this night; may we be safe under the shadow of Thy wings; may we commit ourselves to Thee in peace and comfort; may the gospel be our consolation in our lying down, and in our rising up:—may it be an ever present source of happiness to us:—may it lighten every trial, and reconcile us to every disappoint-

ment. May there be no place or time, no situation or circumstance, when the satisfaction which it imparts shall entirely leave us: but, being under its blessed influence, may our hearts be ever filled with thankfulness and our lips with praises.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Mediator.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRD EVENING.

GREAT AND GLORIOUS GOD, we adore Thee for all Thine infinite perfections! Righteous art Thou in all Thy ways, and holy in all Thy works! We are weak, and helpless, sinful, and guilty, exposed to danger on every side; and in continual need of Thy gracious assistance.

Grant unto us a due sense of our dependence upon Thee, and enable us to lie down to rest, exercising faith in Thy divine power, and in Thy never-failing goodness. We desire to remember, that Thine eye seeth us wheresoever we are; that Thou art about our bed, and art every where present with us. O Lord, pardon, for Jesus Christ's sake, the sins which Thou hast seen in us this day. Many are the offences which we continually com-

mit; for we are by nature prone to evil, and our own hearts too often deceive us. But we desire to trust in the all-powerful mediation of Thy blessed Son; who died for our sins, and hath risen again for our justification; and ever liveth at Thy right hand to make intercession for us. O LORD, grant unto us peace with Thee, and a cheerful hope of being finally made partakers of everlasting life. We beseech Thee to give us Thy Holy Spirit to comfort us; and also to dispose us to every good work.

Let us not return to sin, nor love the ways of ungodliness. Let us not allow ourselves in any of those things which Thou hast forbidden;—but let us mortify all our corrupt affections; our pride and vanity; our anger and passion; our selfishness and worldliness. Let us put on, as the elect of GOD, mercy, and loving-kindness, and tender compassion towards all men. Let us follow the example of our Saviour's lowliness and meekness, of His holy zeal, His constant beneficence, His love to the bodies and souls of men. Let us daily improve through Thy grace in every Christian temper, and exercise ourselves in repentance for whatever we have done amiss.

Accept our thanks, O LORD, for the mercies of the past day, and also for Thy goodness during our past lives. We bless Thee for every gift which Thou hast bestowed upon us; for every deliverance

which Thou hast wrought out for any of us from pain and sickness, from sorrow and from danger; and for every event which Thou hast caused to work for our good. Be with us, we pray Thee, to the end of our days. Bless to us all the estates of life through which we pass; make us humble in prosperity, and patient in adversity; grateful for all Thy temporal mercies; but especially for Thine unspeakable love in our redemption through Jesus Christ.

We commit to Thy gracious care all our friends and relations. May we live in peace and harmony with them all; bearing each other's burthens, helping each other's infirmities, and ministering to each other's temporal and spiritual good.

Have compassion on the children of this family. Save them from the follies and dangers of youth, and make them obedient in all things. Prepare them for Thy future service; and when they shall have done Thy will on earth, may they be joint heirs with us in that inheritance which Thou hast prepared for all who love Thee.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our prayers, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTH EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD! Thou art unspeakably great and glorious! Thou art the King, Eternal, Immortal, and Invisible! Thy throne is in the highest heavens; and Thou art exalted above all blessing and praise:—we, the creatures whom Thine hand hath made, and whom Thy providence sustains from day to day, desire at this time humbly to bow down before Thy divine majesty; and to acknowledge our obligations to Thine infinite goodness and mercy.

We bless Thee for all the comforts of this life; but, above all, for Thine inestimable love in sending Thy Son from heaven to become the Saviour of our souls. We thank Thee for having provided this Mediator through whom sinners may draw near unto Thee. We beseech Thee, O LORD, to grant unto us pardon of our sins through Jesus Christ. Remember not against us the transgressions either of this day or of our former lives; but be Thou pleased to receive us into Thy favour, and adopt us into Thy family as members of Christ, as children of God, and heirs of the kingdom of heaven. And vouchsafe unto us the gift of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled to love Thee with all our hearts; and faithfully to perform Thy righteous will. We beseech Thee to renew us in the spirit of our minds. Help us to put off that

old man, which is corrupt according to the flesh; and to put on that new man which is created after Thine own image in righteousness and true holiness. Deliver us from blindness and hardness of heart; from too great a love of this present world; as well as from coldness and indolence in Thy service. May Thy good Spirit produce in us a deep and sincere repentance; and make us fruitful in every good word and work.

We also pray Thee to enable us to put our whole confidence in Thee. May we commit all our concerns into Thy merciful hands who art ever ready to protect those who sincerely love and serve Thee. Let Thy watchful providence defend us by night and by day, in prosperity and adversity, in sickness and in health; and, whenever the awful hour of our death shall draw near, may we find our consolations in Christ abound.

We most humbly address Thee in behalf of all those for whom it is our duty to pray. We would intercede with Thee for our native land, that it may still be favoured with the light of Thy gospel; and that the seeds of divine knowledge sown in it may bring forth abundant fruit. Bless our King, and all in authority; and give them wisdom to fulfil the arduous duties to which they are called. Have mercy on all who are in any sorrow; on the widows, and the fatherless, and on those who have none to help them. Look down with compassion on those who suffer from the calamities of war.

Be merciful to our dear friends and relations. Let the light of Thy gospel shine into all their hearts. Grant, that they may be now united with us in the bonds of Christian love; and that we may all be members of Thy blessed family in heaven.

We pray Thee to take us under Thy care this night. We are unable to protect ourselves; but, Thou, LORD, art ever present with us. O hear us from heaven Thy dwelling-place; and for Thy mercy's sake bestow upon us more than we are able to ask, or think, or are worthy to receive.

We present these our humble and imperfect prayers in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTH EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, yet hast promised forgiveness to all those who repent of the evil which they have done,—we draw near to Thee under a deep sense of our unworthiness, for we have transgressed in thought, word, and deed; and, when we look back on our past lives, we are confounded by the multitude of our offences. Many have been the sins of which Thou, and Thou only,

hast been the witness. O LORD, save us from that wrath which we have merited. Thou willest not the death of a sinner; but, rather, that he should turn from his wickedness and live. Fulfil towards each of us those gracious promises which Thou hast made in Jesus Christ; and enable us to rejoice in the sense of Thy favour here, and in the hope of eternal life in the world to come.

And lest, through our frailty, we should again yield to the power of our manifold temptations, grant unto us both the guidance of thy providence and the help of Thy Holy Spirit. Put into our hearts good desires; and enable us, by Thy grace, to bring the same to good effect. Correct whatever is amiss in us. Deliver us from pride and vanity, and from the too great love of earthly things; from that fear of man which bringeth a snare, and from all inordinate indulgence. Save us from envy, hatred, and malice. Let not the sun go down upon our wrath. Let us go to rest this night full of charity and benevolence; and maintaining a conscience void of offence towards Thee and towards all men. May our hearts be a fit habitation for Thy Spirit; and may our souls and bodies be preserved blameless, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With these prayers for ourselves, we offer up our intercessions for others also. Let the light of Thy gospel shine upon all mankind. Have mercy on these lands. Bless our King, and all in authority

under him. Strengthen their hands, that they may effectually repress wickedness and vice ; and maintain Thy true religion among us. Give grace to all ministers of the gospel, that they may both preach Thy word, and be examples of virtue and godliness. Send down Thy blessing, both temporal and spiritual, upon our several relations and friends; and unite with us in Christian bonds those who are already joined to us by the ties of nature and affection. Be merciful to those who are in any trouble of mind, body, or estate.

Regard in tender compassion the young of this family. May they daily learn the fear of the Lord; and may they ever walk in Thy commandments.

We now beseech Thee to continue to us Thy gracious protection through this night. Into Thine hand we commend our bodies, and souls, our earthly, and our eternal interests. Thou, O LORD, neither slumberest nor sleepest:—O take us all under Thy special care:—defend us from every danger; and grant us such refreshing sleep, that we may be fitted for the duties of the following day. And give us grace so to live, that we may never be afraid to die; but whether we live, we may live unto the LORD; or whether we die, we may die unto the LORD; all which we ask in the name, and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SIXTH EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, the Author of our being, the supporter of our lives, and the source of all our hopes both in this world and that which is to come:—we lift up our evening prayer to Thee in acknowledgment of Thy divine goodness and of our continual dependence upon Thee.

We thank Thee for Thy merciful protection this day. By Thee have we been sustained ever since we were born; and by Thy gracious care we are now enabled to lie down in peace. Blessed be Thy name if we have been in any measure preserved from evil. We are exposed to dangers on every side; to innumerable ills, which afflict the body; and to many sorrows of the mind. We live in the midst of an ensnaring world; our own hearts are ever ready to deceive us; and our great spiritual adversary goeth about seeking whom he may devour. O LORD, our hope and confidence are only in Thee. Be Thou unto us a rock of defence, that we may be saved from the power of our enemies. In every season of temptation, in the period of adversity, in the time also of prosperity, in the hour of death, and in the Day of Judgement, good LORD, deliver us!

We beseech Thee to pardon the sins which we have this day committed. Although we profess to love Thy name, yet, in how many things do we

continue to offend. We often hear Thy holy word; we are instructed in every part of Thy sacred truth; but how little fruit do we bring forth which is worthy of our Christian calling, and of that care which Thou in Thy providence and grace hast bestowed upon us! We earnestly implore Thy pardon in the name of Jesus Christ. Be Thou merciful to us for our Saviour's sake; and send Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may more deeply repent, and may reform our lives, and be disciples of Christ not in name only, but in deed and in truth.

Be pleased to sanctify to the good of our souls whatsoever events have befallen us on this day. May we be gathering wisdom from the scenes which we see around us. When we behold instances of patience and long-suffering, of meekness and gentleness, of loving-kindness and charity, may we follow them; and when we witness the mortality of others, may we be reminded that our time also is short, and that blessed is that man whom his Lord when He cometh shall find watching.

Bless, we earnestly beseech Thee, our several friends and relations. Be Thou bountiful to our benefactors.

Shew Thy special mercy to the children of this family. Give wisdom to those who shall be appointed to instruct them; and provide for them friends who shall guide them in the right way, and shall prove a blessing to the end of their lives.

We pray for our King, that his throne may be established in righteousness; and that he may experience Thy best blessings in the evening of his days; for our parliament, that their counsels may be directed to our true interests and to Thy glory; for our magistrates, that they may not fail to be a terror to evil doers, and a praise to them who do well; for the ministers of the gospel, that they may go forth in Thy strength and preach Thy pure and unadulterated word, and have abundant success; for our great men, that they may be examples of virtue to those beneath them; for the poor, that they may be preserved from repining at their lot, and live in all godliness and honesty; and for those who are sick or in trouble, that they may patiently endure the afflictions of the Lord, and in due time find deliverance. We thus commend to Thy gracious care both ourselves and others; and we desire to lie down in perfect charity with all men.

O Lord, hear us in these our prayers for Jesus Christ's sake, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory world without end.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SEVENTH EVENING.

Almighty and everlasting God, who seest all our thoughts, and words, and works, and who will

judge us at the last day; we beseech Thee to pardon whatsoever sins we have this day committed against Thy divine majesty; and to give us grace to examine ourselves that we may know wherein we have offended against Thee. We fear that we have this day done many things which we ought not to have done; and have left undone many things which we ought to have done; that we may have indulged our pride, and our evil tempers; and harboured many sinful thoughts; that we may have been negligent in the performance of the duties of our station, and may have omitted opportunities of doing good. We profess to be Thy servants; but how great a part of our duty do we often leave unperformed! O pardon our offences, for Jesus Christ's sake; and teach us continually to amend our lives, that we may become His disciples, not in name only, but in deed and in truth.

We pray Thee to take us under Thy gracious care this night: we are surrounded by dangers; and are at all times unable to help ourselves; but Thou art ever present with us. The darkness and the light are both alike to Thee; and Thou art ever present with those who put their trust in Thee. How many are there who will pass this night in sorrow and in pain! How many who will mourn through the disquietude of their hearts; and are without any sure hope in their God! O Lord, grant unto us, if it please Thee, refreshing rest; but, especially, teach us to put our trust in Thee.

Enable us to rejoice in our most merciful Saviour, amidst all the trials which we may meet with here; and to look forward with humble and cheerful hope, to the great day of our appearing before Thee. May we know in whom we have believed; and may our souls be safe in the hands of that Redeemer to whom we have committed them; and in whose merits alone we desire to trust. Accept, also, for His sake, the imperfect services of this day; pardon what hath been evil in us; and look down with favour on whatsoever hath been good; since we present unto Thee even our best works only in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son.

We beseech Thee to have mercy on our dear friends and relations; to relieve their sorrows, and to supply their wants, as well as to direct their steps. Grant unto them a lively faith in the promises of Thy gospel; and make them fruitful in every good work. We pray for our King and country. O Lord, deliver us from the hand of our enemies, and direct the public measures to our true interests and Thy glory. Have pity on the poor, the desolate, and the oppressed. Be Thou a Father to the fatherless; and a God of consolation to the widow. Look down with an eye of favour on the rising generation; and raise Thou up a seed to serve Thee who shall hand down Thy truth to the latest posterity.

Bless especially the children of this family; may they be trained up in the nurture and admonition of

the Lord; may they be submissive and dutiful in all things; may they live in harmony and love, one towards another; may they be kept from the contagion of the world; and after a life of holy obedience to Thy laws, may they all be made members of Thy blessed family above.

O Lord, pardon the infirmity of these our prayers; and answer us, not according to what we either desire or deserve, but according to the riches of Thy grace in Jesus Christ, for whom we bless Thee, and to whom with Thee, and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

EIGHTH EVENING.

O Lord God Almighty, Father of mercies, from whom we derive the temporal comforts which we enjoy, and to whom we owe the blessed and glorious hope of everlasting life, we desire to render unto Thee this our evening sacrifice of prayer, and praise, and thanksgiving. We acknowledge Thy goodness to us during the past day; and we beseech Thee to continue to us Thy gracious protection during the darkness and silence of the approaching night. Thou art ever present with us. Thou

sustainest our lives though we see Thee not. Thou art our protection in all dangers. Thou art our support in trouble; our guide in difficulty; our best consolation in time of sickness; and our only refuge in the hour of death.

We pray Thee to increase our trust and confidence in Thee. Deliver us from the love of this changeful and uncertain world. Strengthen our faith in the great promises of Thy gospel; and grant that, we, having committed our souls to Thy mercies in Jesus Christ, may find in Him continual rest, and peace.

We beseech Thee, for His sake, to pardon whatever sins we have this day committed against Thee. Although we profess to know Thy word, and to live in obedience to Thy will, in how many things do we continue to offend. We are often slothful in the performance of our duties; we fail to watch against our peculiar temptations; we yield to the evil example of those around us; we gratify our pride; we indulge our evil tempers; we renew our sins, to the great disquiet of our souls. O Lord, forgive, for Jesus Christ's sake, the offences of this day; and pour out upon us Thy Holy Spirit, that we may become more stedfast and zealous in Thy service, and more diligent in every good work.

We present to Thy gracious and fatherly care all those for whom it is our duty to pray. Have compassion on our dearest relations and friends. Supply their various wants through the riches of Thy

mercy in Jesus Christ. Bless our King, and all who are in authority; and give them wisdom to fulfil the arduous duties to which they are called. Be merciful to all who are in sorrow. Look down with pity on those who suffer through the calamities of war; on prisoners and captives; and on all who are destitute and oppressed. Bestow Thy special favour on Thine afflicted servants; and cause their earthly troubles to issue in their eternal joy. Have mercy on the young: may there be never wanting in this land a seed to serve Thee; and may those, who shall come after us, obtain from Thee an increase of light and knowledge, as well as of faith, and hope, and love; that the fruits of righteousness may abound; and the excellency of Thy gospel may be more and more manifested in the world.

We present unto Thee these our imperfect supplications in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

NINTH EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, by whose power we were created, by whose providence we are sustained, and by whose grace in Christ we are made heirs of eternal life; we desire to bless Thee for all Thy mercies, both temporal and spiritual;

and, especially, for Thy goodness to us on the day which is now past.

We thank Thee for our food and raiment; for our various comforts and enjoyments; for our freedom from pain and sorrow; and for our deliverance from many of those temptations which are common in the world. We bless Thee also for the religious advantages which we so abundantly enjoy; for the light which shines around us; for the various means of grace, and for the gift of Thy written word.

We desire, at the same time, to confess our numberless sins. We have trespassed in thought, word, and deed:—we have done that which we ought not to have done; we have left undone that which we ought to have done; and our only hope is in Thy mercy. Pardon, O Lord, for Christ's sake, all the evil which we have committed on this day. Forgive whatever pride and vanity we may have indulged; whatever anger and passion, whatever fretfulness and impatience, we may have betrayed; and whatever evil thoughts we may have harboured in our minds. Pardon, also, the various sins of our tongues, by which we so often violate the law of charity towards our neighbour. We plead the merits of Jesus Christ Thy Son; and we would rejoice, that there is this great Mediator between God and man, through whom there is perfect remission of sins for all those, who, with penitent and contrite hearts, confess their trespasses against Thee.

And grant, we beseech Thee, that we may endeavour continually to amend our lives, and to walk in the way of Thy commandments. Put within us Thy Holy Spirit, that we may turn from every sin; and may delight in doing the will of our heavenly Father. Make us humble and lowly, kind and benevolent, and fruitful in every good work. May we follow the example of our blessed Saviour, who went about doing good; and, remembering how short is the time of our sojourning here on earth, may we use all diligence both in serving others, and in making our own calling and election sure.

We desire, also, before we lie down to rest, to commend to Thy gracious and fatherly care all our dear friends and relations. We beseech Thee to protect them from all evil; and to grant unto them all things convenient for them; and, when they shall have experienced Thy favour here, to bring them to Thine everlasting kingdom.

Bless the children of this family:—strengthen them, that they may resist sin; may overcome the world; may deny themselves; and bring forth fruit in their lives to the praise and glory of Thy name.

And, finally, we implore Thy blessing on our King and country, on our parliament, our magistrates, our ministers of the gospel, and all orders of men among us. Teach us to fill up our stations with fidelity; and to walk in the fear of God, and in charity towards all men.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers and supplications, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TENTH EVENING.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and most merciful God, we are met together to offer as a Christian family our united prayers and supplications unto Thee. Thou understandest the secrets of all our hearts. Thou hast known all the circumstances of our past lives; and art acquainted with the present disposition of all our minds. Thou knowest whether we are of the number of those who live in thoughtlessness and forgetfulness of Thee, and persist in their impenitence, not seeing their danger; or whether we are of that happy number who have embraced Thy gospel with true contrition of heart, and have obeyed its solemn call to repentance and newness of life. O Lord, suffer not that any of us should harden our hearts against Thee. May we fear, lest death should overtake us in our sins; and if we are yet negligent of the things which make for our everlasting peace, may we begin to seek the salvation of our souls with earnestness and anxiety. But, if any of us

have already received Thy truth in the love of it; if any of us have already repented truly of our sins, and begun to lead a new life, and to walk in the way of Thy commandments, we pray that we may learn to follow them to the end, fully.

O LORD, how great is the privilege of those who can thus look up with holy confidence unto Thee! How blessed are they who have Him for their friend, who made heaven and earth, and hath all things under His government! We pray Thee to receive us into Thy favour; to adopt us into Thy family; and to make all things work together for our good. Having sought, first, the kingdom of GOD and His righteousness, may all other things be added unto us. May Thy merciful providence direct the events of our lives. May Thine arm be stretched out to protect us. May Thy Spirit sustain and strengthen us; and, if it should please Thee to visit us with trials and afflictions, may Thy grace sanctify all our sorrows; and cause them to be instrumental to our eternal benefit.

We now commit ourselves to Thee for this night; earnestly beseeching Thee to pardon our sins, and to take us under Thy gracious protection. May we rise in the morning with every good desire growing up in us; and go to the duties of the following day, remembering, that we are candidates for a heavenly prize, and looking beyond these temporal things to a better and more enduring inheritance.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

ELEVENTH EVENING.

O Lord Almighty, who art the God of our lives, the author of all our happiness, and the only source from which we can derive any true consolation and hope:—and who hast also declared in Thy word, that Thou hearest the prayers of Thy creatures, and art rich in mercy unto all who devoutly call upon Thee;—encouraged by Thy gracious promises, we sinners, hopeless in ourselves, and exposed to Thy just condemnation, presume to call upon Thy name and to implore Thy blessing and Thy mercy.

We confess, that we have all trespassed against Thee. We have sinned by our early forgetfulness of Thee; our iniquities have advanced with our advancing years; and, if we now attempt to recollect all the evil which we have done, we are confounded by the multitude of our offences. We confess, that we have been vain and worldly; proud and self-willed; professing, indeed, the Christian faith; but too much engrossed by the present world, and too thoughtless of eternity;

inclined to cherish delusive hopes of much earthly good; eager also for reputation with our fellow-creatures; but little anxious to please Thee, and to secure our everlasting salvation.

We lament, especially, that, though Thy gospel hath been preached to us, we have heard it with so much indifference. We lament that, notwithstanding the powerful nature of its doctrines, we have been so little affected by it; so often refusing to follow Thy will, and the precepts of Christ; choosing, rather, to live according to the will of men, and the corrupt customs of this sinful world. O LORD, grant, we beseech Thee, that we may not remain insensible to Thy mercies in Jesus Christ. May we lie down this night deeply affected with the importance of eternity; and resolved to give up our future lives to that GOD who made us, and to that SAVIOUR who hath redeemed us by His most precious blood.

We desire, also, to thank Thee for Thy many temporal gifts. Blessed be Thy name for all the mercies which we have experienced this day—for our health and strength—for our food and raiment—for the various accommodations and comforts of this mortal life. We are not worthy, O LORD, of the least of all Thy bounties. May we be enabled to view them as the gifts of our reconciled Father; and, while we enjoy these earthly blessings, may we look forward, with cheerful and humble hope, to those greater things, which as yet

eye hath not seen, nor the ear heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive; but which Thou hast prepared for them who love Thee.

Accept, for our Saviour's sake, whatever we may have done this day in any measure according to Thy commands; and receive these our imperfect prayers, which we offer in His name.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWELFTH EVENING.

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, we are met together as a Christian family, to thank Thee for the mercies of the past day, and to implore Thy blessing before we lie down to rest. We would ever remember the frailty of our nature; and our utter uncertainty how long we may have to live. We are placed in this world for a short season, and must soon enter into eternity. We must go to the Father of our spirits, and give account of all things done in the body, and must then receive our eternal doom.

O may this awful thought return to our minds with each returning day; that we may enter upon our duties, reflecting on the ends for which we were born; and may lie down each night, ex-

amining whether we are so passing our time on earth, as we shall wish we had done—when we are about to die, and to appear before Thy tribunal.

We pray Thee, O LORD, to give us a sacred jealousy over ourselves; lest we fall short of our heavenly calling. May we learn to put our whole trust in Thee, and to place our delight in serving Thee. Pardon all our disobedience in the time past:—pardon our many negligences, as well as sins:—pardon the wasted time, the idle words, and the evil tempers of this day.

We would lie down trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord; in whose gracious promises to every repenting sinner we place all our hope. And while we thus commend our souls to Thy mercies in Christ, to Thee do we commit all our worldly affairs. In Thine hand, O Lord, whose providence it is that bringeth every thing to pass, we leave the issue of all our undertakings; for Thou knowest, better than ourselves, what is for our good.

We beseech Thee to bless us with all spiritual blessings; and to sanctify to us the daily events of our lives. We pray Thee to lay upon us no greater burthen than we are able to bear; and to train us by Thy merciful goodness and Thy tender care, for the performance of better services than we have yet rendered Thee in the world. We pray for strength against every temptation; and for final victory over every sin. Arm us for every

conflict; fit us for every duty which we have to fulfil. Let us diligently perform our work in life; let us, at the same time, live in peace and love, and abound in all offices of kindness to each other.

O Lord, unite us as one Christian family together. May we be partakers of the same faith; and heirs of the same hope. May our united prayers continually ascend to the throne of Thy heavenly grace; and may Thy blessing rest upon us.

Hear us, we beseech Thee, in these our humble supplications, for Jesus Christ, our Saviour's sake.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRTEENTH EVENING.

O God, who of Thy tender mercy didst send Thy Son Jesus Christ into the world to die for our sins! We beseech Thee to bestow upon us all those abundant blessings, which, through Him, Thou hast provided for the children of men. Numberless are our wants; and we would, therefore, daily abound in supplication and prayer. We pray Thee to bestow upon us all things which Thou knowest to be needful for us; to carry us in safety through this life, and to bring us to the end of our days in peace. We pray Thee to protect us in all

dangers; to guide us in all our difficulties; to sustain us in all our temptations and trials; and to lay upon us no greater burthen than we are able to bear. We pray Thee to support us with Thy heavenly grace; to strengthen our faith; to animate our hope; and to enlarge our charity. We pray Thee to impress upon us every doctrine of Thy gospel, and thus to purify our hearts.

We thank Thee, O Heavenly Father, that, for us sinners, who have wandered from Thy flock, and have all gone out of the way, Thou hast provided the blessing of salvation. Oh! may we resign all our affairs to that merciful God, who, having rescued our souls from destruction, and shown us the path of life, hath promised also, that all things shall work together for good, to them who love Him. And while we trust Thee, let us also diligently obey Thee. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, may we think of these things. Fill us, O Lord, with compassion to our fellow-creatures; even as Thou hast had compassion on us. Give us hearts to deny ourselves; and to be kind and liberal to others; always remembering, that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Give us tender consciences, that we may flee from all evil. We desire, as much as is possible in this world of trial, to be kept in paths of safety; we ask not for worldly wealth, reputation, honour, or prosperity; but we

pray for calm and peaceful consciences; for every opportunity of leading a holy life; and for such circumstances in this world as may be most free from temptation. We pray for Thy preserving grace, for holiness of life, and eternal salvation at the last.

Pardon, we now beseech Thee, all the sins of the past day: and grant, that, before we lie down to rest, we may repent sincerely of the evil which we have done; and also, of our neglect of the good which we might have done. And we would implore both the pardon of our sins, and the acceptance of our imperfect services, in the name of our only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTEENTH EVENING.

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, whose mercies are over all Thy works, and who hast, on this day, supplied our returning wants, we render thanks to Thee for all the bounties of Thy providence; and we desire now to lie down under a deep sense both of our own unworthiness, and of Thine unspeakable goodness. We adore Thee, especially, for the gift of Jesus Christ Thy Son; through whom we hope for the pardon of our sins, and the gift of everlasting life. We are all sinners in Thy sight; and are

exposed to Thy just condemnation; but, though our offences have abounded, yet Thy grace hath still more abounded through Jesus Christ. We desire to confess and lament the sins of the day which is now past. Forgive, O LORD, all our negligences, as well as our more manifest offences. Forgive all our evil thoughts, and words, and works. We would lament every mis-spent hour, and every neglected opportunity of doing good. We lament our want of love to Thee our GOD, and our want of zeal in Thy service. We lament, also, the great imperfection of our charity towards those around us. Thou hast commanded us to love our neighbour as ourselves; but we are continually consulting our own interest; indulging our own ease; and following our own humour. Help us, we pray Thee, to follow the example of our blessed Saviour; who pleased not himself; but went about doing good; and hath commanded us continually to deny ourselves, and take up our cross, and follow Him.

We beseech Thee to bless unto us the events of this day. We would remember that all things are directed by Thine unerring wisdom; and that they shall work together for good to them who love Thee. May the several trials, which we have this day experienced, teach us more and more to know ourselves:—may our sorrows wean us from this present world: and may our enjoyments be the means of exciting our gratitude to Thee, the author

of all good. May the afflictions of others call forth our Christian sympathy; and render us abundant in the exercise of our benevolence.

We pray for Thy blessing on all our friends and relations. Guard them from evil by night and by day; and especially from whatsoever may hurt their souls. Establish them in Thy true faith; and make them fruitful in good works. Bestow Thy special blessing on the rising generation.

May the children of this family live in Thy fear, and maintain Thy cause in the world. May they receive the truths taught them into an honest heart, and be ever followers of that which is good.

May the servants of this house bear continually in mind that Thine eye is upon them; may they be faithful in all things; and live in peace one with another.

Bless our King, and country. Give grace to all ministers of Thy gospel. Have pity on the poor and the afflicted; and make it the daily business of all our lives to minister to the sorrows and wants of others, and to abound in every good work.

We present these our humble and imperfect supplications, in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTEENTH EVENING.

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, we beseech Thee now to deliver us from all wandering thoughts, and to enable us to worship Thee in an acceptable manner, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray Thee, O God, to pardon all the sins of this day. We confess, that we have not served Thee as we ought; but we desire to lament both our negligences and our sins: and we would seriously resolve, that, by Thy grace assisting us, we will endeavour continually to amend our lives, and to walk more conformably to the precepts of Thy holy word.

Pardon whatever pride or vanity we have this day indulged; whatever angry words we have spoken; and whatever sinful thoughts we have harboured in our minds. Forgive our want of sufficient tenderness of conscience in the performance of those duties in which we have been engaged. Pardon, especially, that want of love both to Thee and to our fellow-creatures, which causes us to live so much to ourselves, and to do so little either for the benefit of others, or for Thy glory.

We pray Thee, O Lord, to give us hearts more devoted to Thee; and more dead to sin, as well as to all the things of this world. Teach us to know how frail is our life; and how short may be the time of our sojourning here; and how awful may

be the account which we shall have to give of all things done in the body, as soon as we shall be called hence. O let us lie down, night after night, as those who know not whether they may not lie down to rise no more. May we repent daily of our sins:—may we be accepted of Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord: and may we resolve by Thy grace assisting us, to bring forth all those fruits of righteousness which are by Him to the praise and glory of God. O save us from a barren and unfruitful faith; by which we do but the more miserably deceive our own souls. Give us that true peace of mind which they alone possess, who love Thy law: and save us from that hope of the hypocrite, which shall perish when God taketh away his soul. May we be living a life of purity, and holiness, of watchfulness, and self-denial, and of diligence in every good work.

O Lord, take us now under Thy care, both pardoning our sins, and accepting our imperfect services on the past day.

We implore Thy special protection on the children of this family. Save them from the temptations of this vain and evil world. Watch over them during the weakness and inexperience of their youth, and prepare them for the duties to which Thy providence shall call them.

And bless with us all others who are dear to us; and make us to lie down in perfect charity with all men.

We ask every blessing in the name and through the merits of the great Mediator and Intercessor, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SIXTEENTH EVENING.

O Eternal God, Father of men and angels, who hast established the heavens and the earth in a wonderful order, causing day and night to succeed each other :—we make our humble address to Thy divine majesty, begging of Thee mercy and protection this night and for ever.

O Lord, pardon all our sins, our light and rash words, the vanity and impiety of our thoughts, our unjust and unkind actions, and whatever we have done amiss this day or at any time before. O God, our souls are troubled through the remembrance of our transgressions, and are exposed, through the frailty and sinfulness of our natures, to every temptation, which, of ourselves, we are not able to resist. Lord God of mercy! we earnestly beg of Thee to give us a great portion of Thy grace, such as may be sufficient and effectual for the mortification of all our corruptions; that, as we have formerly served sinful desires, so now we may give up ourselves to Thy service, and the duties of a holy life.

Teach us to walk always as in Thy presence;

put into our souls great love to Thee, and Thy holy laws; that it may become the employment of our lives to advance Thy glory, and to root out all habits of sin; so that, in holiness of life, we may patiently wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Into Thy hands we now commend ourselves; praying Thee so to bless and sanctify our sleep unto us, that it may be a refreshment unto our wearied bodies; to enable us the better to serve Thee. And whether we sleep or wake, live or die, may we be Thy servants.

We also beseech Thee, O God, to send down Thy blessing on all our dear friends and relations. Bless them in their persons, in their families, and in all their undertakings; and dispose them to advance Thine honour and to live to Thy glory.

Be Thou a father and a friend to the children of this family. Let Thy providence lead them through the dangers, and temptations, and ignorances of their youth, that they may not run into folly, nor give way to any unbridled appetite. Be pleased so to order the events of their lives, that, by a good education and prudent counsel and Thy restraining grace, they may be trained up to serve Thee in the midst of an evil generation; and, after an useful and holy life, may come to a peaceful and happy death; and may be made heirs with Christ in the glories of His heavenly kingdom.

Look down with an eye of favour on the whole Church of Christ. Have compassion on Thine

afflicted servants. Give them increase of faith, and patience, and hope; and, in Thy good time, give them deliverance.

And, O Thou who willest not the death of a sinner, have pity on the multitudes who walk not in obedience to Thy commandments. Turn them from all their sins, so that their souls may be saved in the day of Jesus Christ. Support also the weak; establish the doubtful and wavering; succour the tempted; and raise up those who are fallen; and teach us all to have compassion on the infirmities of our brethren; and to walk charitably one towards another.

Hear, O LORD, these and all our prayers for the sake of Thine only Son Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SEVENTEENTH EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVER BLESSED GOD, who preservest our lives, and sustainest our health and strength, and multipliest our comforts and enjoyments, we are met together to praise Thee for the mercies which we have experienced, since we were last assembled to worship Thy holy name. Thou art the author of all good:—without Thee, we are utterly weak and helpless, as well as miserable.

O LORD, continue to us Thy gracious care; and preserve us this night, both in body and soul, from every evil.

We beseech Thee, especially, to grant unto us all the pardon of sin, and a cheerful confidence in Thy favour, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Give us peace through His atoning blood; and being thus reconciled to Thee our God, may we also be in charity with all men. Take from us, O LORD, every angry passion, as well as every tormenting fear of Thy wrath. We beseech Thee, also, to deliver us from those anxieties and cares which are too apt to distress our minds. Let us trust Thy gracious providence; and ever commit ourselves and all our concerns to Thee, as to a wise and faithful Creator, and a father and friend in Christ.

Bless us, we pray Thee, to the end of our lives. Support us in all our future trials,—guide us in all our difficulties—strengthen us for the several duties of our stations—sustain us in sorrow, sickness, and adversity; and, whenever the trials and labours of this mortal life shall have passed, receive us into the haven of everlasting rest.

We beseech Thee to bless our friends and relations. Deliver them from all the dangers and sorrows of this evil world; save them, especially, from sin; unite them with us in the bonds of a common faith; and make us all members of the same blessed family above.

Have compassion on the children of this house; fill them with the knowledge of Thy will; and give them grace to serve Thee without fear in holiness and righteousness all the days of their lives.

Have mercy on our King. Direct the counsels of this nation. Bless our magistrates. Inspire our clergy with the spirit of true religion. Give to the poor, contentment with their lot;—and to the rich a spirit of compassion and benevolence. Extend Thy goodness to all mankind. Put an end to war and discord, as well as to vice and superstition; and send Thy gospel over the earth,—to enlighten those who still sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death.

These prayers we would humbly present with one heart and one mind at the throne of Thy heavenly grace; and we beseech Thee to hear and answer them, according to the riches of Thy mercy in Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

EIGHTEENTH EVENING.

O Lord God Almighty, who hearest the prayers of all who devoutly call upon Thy name, we kneel down to make our supplications unto Thee this night; imploring Thee to take us under Thy pro-

tection; and to pardon also every sin which we may this day have committed against Thee.

We, at the same time, beseech Thee to impress upon us the importance of eternal things. May we be deeply persuaded, through the powerful help of Thy Holy Spirit, that we can never prize our salvation too highly; nor strive too earnestly or unceasingly after it. Teach us to remember, that we are dying creatures, who must soon enter into eternity; and must either rise to a state of immortal happiness, or sink into everlasting despair. May we never forget that "one thing is needful;" and may we, comparatively, despise all the things of this world, while we think of that better part which can never be taken from us.

And pour out upon us, we beseech Thee, the spirit of wisdom and of a sound mind. Deliver us from every error by which we may be in danger of being deceived. Convince us of the evil which hath been hidden in our hearts; and of the many sins which in our lives we have committed. And do Thou bestow upon us deep repentance for them; and, at the same time, grant us such a lively faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be comforted by the hope of His pardoning mercy, and may be encouraged in pursuing our Christian course.

We would, also, implore Thee as the God of providence to suit Thy various dispensations towards us to our several cases and necessities. Send us, we beseech Thee, such circumstances in life, such

degrees of health, such friends, and such opportunities of instruction, as may most effectually tend to promote the salvation and edification of our souls. May Thy Holy Spirit dwell within us; and may all things, which befal us, be ordered by Thee for our good. And may we see and adore Thy hand, both in Thy chastisements, and in Thy mercies; and be enabled always to say, "it is the Lord that giveth, and the Lord that taketh away:—blessed be the name of the Lord."

We commit ourselves to Thy mercy and protection for this night; and we desire to lie down at peace with Thee, and in perfect charity with all men.

And now, O Lord, if we have this day mis-spent our time, or have forgotten Thee in our thoughts, or have in any wise sinned against Thee, we here implore Thy pardon in the name of Jesus Christ.

We present these our imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

NINETEENTH EVENING.

O Lord God Almighty, disposer of all events, and Lord over all Thy creatures, who art great in power, infinite in wisdom, and complete in justice,

goodness, and mercy; we, Thy creatures, made by Thy hand, and upheld by Thy continual power, kneel down in humble adoration of Thy divine majesty, imploring Thee to have compassion upon us, pardoning our sins, and receiving us into Thy favour for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

We desire now to confess the sins of another day; and we pray, that we may do it with humble, broken, and contrite hearts. O Lord, we acknowledge our guilt in every neglect of the duties of the day; in every evil temper which we have indulged; and in every sinful thought and imagination. We lament our forgetfulness that we are Thy creatures, accountable to Thee for all we do; seen by Thine all-piercing eye, wheresoever we are; bound, also, by the strongest obligations to pay unto Thee constant gratitude and love, to fulfil Thy will and to do all to Thy glory.

We desire to thank Thee for Thy patience and long forbearance with us. Though we continually offend against Thee, Thou still waitest to be gracious; and though we have been so deaf to the calls of Thy providence, and the invitations of Thy gospel, still Thou hast not cast us off; but permittest us, day after day, to read Thy sacred word,—to join in social prayer,—and to call upon the God of our salvation.

We now pray Thee for Christ's sake, to have mercy upon us; to fill our hearts with a sense of Thy goodness; and to teach us how to serve Thee

henceforth in a more acceptable manner; that so we may dwell in the light of Thy countenance, and Thy blessing may descend upon us. Help us to be faithful in all the duties of life to which Thou hast called us. As masters, may we remember that we have a Master in heaven. As servants, may we serve the Lord Christ. As parents, may we be careful to train up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. As children, may we be obedient to our parents in all things; proving that this is good and acceptable to the Lord. As subjects, may we honour the King and obey magistrates, and all who are put in authority over us. And, as members of the same family, may we remember how blessed a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. May we, therefore, exercise towards each other all patience, and loving-kindness, and charity; and endeavour to preserve the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life.

O Lord, pardon the sins and negligences of this day; and help us to amend our ways, and to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

Let us now lie down in Thy fear; and, in the morning, let us again seek Thy favour; and let us ever remember, that thou, Lord, art with us by night and by day; and that Thou alone causest us to dwell in safety.

These prayers we humbly present to Thy divine

majesty, trusting in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTIETH EVENING.

Almighty God, Creator of all things, in whose hands are life and death, glory be to Thee for all Thy mercies. We thank Thee for Thy preservation of us during the past day; and for the many bounties of Thy providence. Pardon, O most merciful God, all the offences against Thee which we have committed; and also our negligence of those duties which Thou hast required. Have mercy on our souls for Jesus Christ's sake; and vouchsafe unto us the comforts of Thy Holy Spirit.

Enable us, O Lord, to pass our future time on earth in Thy fear and to Thy glory. Save us from the power of our sins; and from all our spiritual enemies. O Thou, in whose hands are the wills and affections of men, kindle in us, we pray Thee, all holy desires. Repress our sinful and corrupt imaginations. Dispose us to love Thy commandments, and to desire Thy promises; and grant, that, by Thy constant help and protection, we may so pass through things temporal, as finally not to

lose the things eternal. Strengthen and establish us in every good work. Grant, that, amidst the hopes, and fears, the pleasures, and sorrows, the dangers, and deliverances, and all the various changes of this mortal life, our hearts may be surely fixed on those joys which are eternal. O merciful Father, do Thou continually direct and bless us. Give us in this world knowledge of Thy truth, and confidence in Thy mercy; and, in the world to come, life everlasting, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

We pray, O Lord, for all our dear friends and relations. Guard them from evil by night and by day. Support, comfort, and assist them; and bring them to eternal happiness through the merits of the same blessed Saviour. Have mercy on the young; may they be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and thus learn to do Thy will, and to walk in Thy fear, all the days of their lives. We commend unto Thee our King and all who are in authority. Bless all the ministers of Thy Gospel. Pity the sorrows of the afflicted; and supply the various wants of Thy creatures. Be gracious to our benefactors. We pray Thee, also, to forgive our enemies, and to teach us to exercise kindness and good-will towards all men.

Take us, now, O Lord, under Thy gracious protection; defend us from all the dangers of this night; and prepare us, if it please Thee, by the refreshment of sleep, for the duties which Thy

providence shall, on the ensuing day, appoint for us.

Accept, O Lord. these our humble and imperfect supplications, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-FIRST EVENING.

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, who art our daily protector in all dangers, and the giver of every blessing which we enjoy; we desire most humbly and heartily to thank Thee for Thy mercies to this family during the day which is now past; and we pray Thee to preserve us through the night, and to cause Thy peace at this time to rest upon us.

Forgive, we beseech Thee, all our sins;—remember not against us the transgressions of this day or of our former lives; but grant unto us true repentance and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Help us daily to exercise godly sorrow for all that we do amiss. Put into us a due sense of our great unworthiness, and of our continual guilt; and vouchsafe unto us the light of Thy reconciled countenance; and the comforts of Thy Holy Spirit; that, while we lie down to rest, we may enjoy peace in our consciences, and the hope of pardon

for all our sins, through Him who hath died for us.

And teach us, O LORD, to number our days, and to consider our latter end. Let us remember, that we are continually drawing nearer to the grave; and that we know not how soon it may please Thee to call us hence. O Thou, by whose mercy we have now been spared another day, help us to redeem the time, and to fulfil the work appointed for us before we give up our account to Thee. Let us not neglect, nor delay, to execute any good resolution which, by Thy grace, we may have formed. And, especially, may we none of us put off our repentance; or refuse to hear Thy voice in Thy Gospel; lest death should come upon us unawares. Dispose us every evening to try and examine our ways by the standard of Thy holy word. Save us from a hardened heart, from an unawakened conscience; and from a worldly and unbelieving spirit. May we remember, that, as Thy mercies are sure to the humble and penitent, so also are Thy judgements sure to him who lives and dies in his iniquity. May we, therefore, daily call upon Thee; and truly humble ourselves before Thee; and may we so worship Thee and serve Thee in this world, that we may be accepted in the world to come through the single merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Bless, we pray Thee, all our relations and friends. Make them partakers of Thy grace, and of all the

promises of Thy gospel. Have mercy on our native land; and continue to us, if it please Thee, the blessings which we have so long and so unthankfully enjoyed; and dispose us to employ them to Thy glory. Direct, we beseech Thee, our King, and all who are put in authority under him, that they may above all things seek Thy honour; and enlighten us, O God, to discharge the Christian duties of the stations in which Thou hast severally placed us.

These and all other things needful for our bodies and our souls,—for our temporal and our eternal interests, we humbly ask in the name of our only Mediator and intercessor, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-SECOND EVENING.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, we beseech Thee to hear the prayers which we are about to offer up unto Thee. Deliver us from all wandering thoughts; and help us to remember that we are now in the presence of that God, unto whom all hearts are open, and from whom no secrets are hid.

O God, we pray Thee to forgive the sins of the past day. We acknowledge that we have this day left undone many things which we ought to have

done, and done many things which we ought not to have done. We have trespassed against Thee in thought, word, and deed. And though we have been encouraged by Thy gospel to repent of our iniquities, and to serve Thee in newness of life, yet we have many times returned to those sins, of which we profess to have repented; and we have fallen into Thy just wrath and displeasure.

But we pray Thee, O Thou God of all grace and goodness, for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, to pardon all that is past, and to take us into Thy favour this night, not weighing our merits, but forgiving our offences, and causing us to place our humble trust in Thy mercy. Deliver us, we pray Thee, from the troubles of a guilty conscience, now that we are about to lie down to rest. Save us, O Lord, from the dread of death, and from the terrors of the wrath to come. Grant unto us, if it please Thee, a quiet night; and make us all to be at peace with Thee, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the same time we beseech Thee, not to suffer that we should deceive ourselves by any false hope; but give us grace, day by day, to examine ourselves with care and diligence, that we may discover all that is amiss in us. O Lord, deliver us from continuing in any known sin. Save us from every secret iniquity. May we each of us resolve, before we go to rest this night, to forsake, by Thy grace assisting us, every former transgression; and

may we now devote ourselves entirely to Thy service.

We further beseech Thee to bless all our relations, friends, and connections; take both us and them under Thy protection this night. And have mercy on all those who are in pain, sickness, or any other adversity; do Thou lighten their troubles, and support them by Thy heavenly grace.

And accept our thanks for all Thy goodness vouchsafed unto us this day. Praised be the Lord for all His mercies; for the health and strength, and food and raiment, and comforts of every kind which we have enjoyed. But, above all, we desire to bless Thy name for the gift of Jesus Christ Thy Son; for the instructions of Thy sacred word, and for the hope of everlasting life. O Lord, grant unto us grace to receive these, and all Thy blessings, with a thankful heart: and let us show forth Thy praise, not with our lips only, but with our lives.

Accept, we beseech Thee, our imperfect supplications and prayers, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

TWENTY-THIRD EVENING.

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, assist us now

to draw near unto Thee with reverence, and grant us the Holy Spirit, that we may worship Thee in an acceptable manner, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord God Almighty, we thank Thee for all Thy mercies during the past day; and we are now met together both to praise Thee for Thy goodness, and to commend ourselves to Thy protection. Preserve us from all the dangers of this night; and grant us, if it please Thee, such quiet and refreshing rest, that we may be prepared for all those duties of life which are before us.

We also earnestly beseech Thee to pardon the sins which we may this day have committed; and to this end, help us now to confess them before Thee, examining ourselves with all impartiality and seriousness. Pardon every evil temper which we have shown this day, and every rash and angry word which we may have spoken. Pardon also any want of strict integrity in our conduct. Pardon whatever insincerity and hypocrisy Thy holy eyes may have this day seen in any of us. Pardon our want of due watchfulness over ourselves, and our too great readiness to cast blame continually on others. Pardon all our disobedience to Thy laws; pardon also our want of submission to Thy providence, and of zeal in Thy service.

For these, and all our other sins, which we have any of us, either on this day, or at any other time committed, we here unite in imploring mercy,

through the name of our most blessed Saviour. O Lord, forgive us, for Jesus Christ's sake. Lay not any of our past sins to our charge, but blot them out from Thy remembrance, for the sake of Him who hath died for us. Give us penitent and contrite hearts, and let us lie down this night in Thy favour.

We also implore Thy blessing on all our friends and relations. Watch over them, we beseech Thee, by Thy good providence; teach them all to live in Thy fear and to hope in Thy mercy. Bless the land in which we live, and especially the faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Have pity on those who are deprived of the comforts which we enjoy, and are lying down this night in pain, sorrow, and affliction; grant them patience under their sufferings, and make them at length partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom. And teach us, O Lord, to have compassion on the afflicted, and to pray for them, and to do good unto all men, and to live in peace and harmony one with another.

We offer up these our imperfect prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIRST SATURDAY EVENING.

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, who preservest us from week to week; and continually renewest Thy various mercies to us, we kneel down this evening, desiring to express our gratitude and love to Thee, who art the Author of our being and the source of all our happiness.

We thank Thee, that, while so many thousands are suffering in misery and want, we are provided with innumerable comforts; and are passing day after day in quietness and peace.

We pray Thee, O Lord, that as we look back on our days which are passed, and consider our lot in life, we may become more thankful for all that goodness which is showered down upon us; and more earnest to employ the opportunities and talents which are given us, in fulfilling Thy will, and in diminishing, as much as in us lies, both the wickedness and the misery which are in the world. We would lament every neglect and abuse of Thy providential gifts, of which we may have been guilty in times past, confessing, with shame and humiliation of soul, that our talents have not been turned to a religious and profitable use, as they ought to have been.

We would now, especially, lament our mis-spent

time, and neglected opportunities, and all our other sins, during the past week. How many sinful thoughts have we indulged! How many hasty and unbecoming words have we uttered! And how little has it been in our minds to exercise every Christian grace! We lament, also, the coldness of our hearts in our religious duties. Though instructed in the affecting truths of the gospel, and blessed with the knowledge of Christ crucified for us, we confess, that we have been listless and lukewarm in our worship; too much alienated from the life of God; and occupied with the cares of this life. Though living, O LORD, on Thy continual bounty, kept by Thy power, and indebted to Thy pardoning grace, how little have we laboured to fulfil Thy holy will, and to walk blamelessly in all Thy statutes and commandments. We now present ourselves before Thee, freely confessing these our sins, and imploring Thy forgiveness in the name of JESUS CHRIST; and we would lie down this night, trusting in His all-sufficient sacrifice on the cross for us, and looking for Thy mercy unto eternal life.

And we pray, that, being thus prepared by repentance and deep humiliation of soul, we may go forth on the ensuing sabbath to hear Thy gospel with teachable and submissive minds. May we receive the seed sown into an honest and good heart. May the gospel of our salvation be the chief desire of our minds, and the consolation of all

our hearts. As the sabbath returns, may we welcome the joyful sound; and bless that God, who not only increaseth our temporal mercies, but also sets before us the hope of everlasting life.

And enable each of us, O Lord, who are met here together to set an example of pure and undefiled religion to all who live around us.

Have compassion on the young in this family. Incline them to hear Thy word with attention, that they may grow wiser every day they live; and teach them to lift up their hearts in prayer, while they kneel down with us to worship Thee.

Confirm the wavering in the ways of true religion. May they see that godliness has the promise of the life which now is, as well as of the life which is to come. May they also be convinced of their sins; and experience what is that peace of conscience, which the gospel brings to the truly humble and penitent.

To Thee do we now commit ourselves, beseeching Thee to bless every member of this family. May we lie down in the fear of God, in the faith of Christ, and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit; and may we rise in the morning rejoicing in our Christian privileges, and desiring to employ the Sabbath in Thy service.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our supplications for Jesus Christ's sake.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

SECOND SATURDAY EVENING.

O God, who hast appointed a day in which Thou wilt judge the world in righteousness, give us grace so to try and judge ourselves, that we may not be finally and everlastingly condemned at the judgement-seat of Jesus Christ. Dispose us daily to examine both our hearts and lives; for Thou, O Lord, regardest our secret thoughts. Grant unto us repentance for whatever sins we have committed either in thought, word, or deed; and forgive all our trespasses, both against Thee and against our neighbour, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

We confess that we too easily forget "the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus." Thou hast sent Thy Son from heaven to save us:—Thou hast invited us by Thy promises, and restrained us by the threatenings of Thy word:—Thou hast set before us "an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away:"—and Thou hast warned us of "a worm that never dieth, and of a fire which is not quenched." We beseech Thee to deliver us from all hardness of heart. May Thy Holy Spirit impress our minds with a deep sense of the importance of eternal things. O may we labour "to make our calling and election sure!" May we be diligent and hope to the end, knowing that we must soon put off these mortal bodies, and that the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ is at hand.

We desire to thank Thee for the advantage of

Thy holy sabbaths; for the gift of Thy sacred word; and for all the means of grace. We have abundant light and knowledge; and we have "line upon line, and precept upon precept."

Assist us this night to look up to Thee with pure and humble minds. Let us commit ourselves to Thy gracious care; sensible of Thy constant presence with us; and earnestly desiring to partake both of Thy favour here and of those joys which are at Thy right hand for evermore. And let not the cares and anxieties of life, nor the lawful business in which we have been engaged, prevent our now meditating on a better world.

We pray Thee to bestow Thy blessing on our dear friends and relations; on our King and country; and on all for whom we are bound to pray. Pity those who are afflicted and who shall pass this night in wakefulness and pain. Succour the tempted. Give peace to the troubled in mind. Be Thou a Father to the fatherless, and a God of consolation to those who are desolate and oppressed. And give us all grace, that we may abound in charity one towards another; and do good unto all men, according to our Lord's example and commandment.

Pardon the imperfection of these our humble supplications, and grant unto us whatsoever things Thou knowest to be needful for us, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our Father, &c.—The grace of our Lord, &c.

THIRD SATURDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, in whose favour is life, and in whose presence there are joys for ever, whom angels and arch-angels continually adore, and whom all Thy saints in heaven delight to worship; we, who are not worthy to take Thy name into our lips, whose foundation is in the dust, whose very natures are unholy, and whose daily and hourly sins testify against us, desire nevertheless, to join with all the heavenly host in blessing, and praising, and magnifying Thy holy name; imploring, at the same time, that the light of Thy reconciled countenance may shine upon us, and that we may be pardoned and accepted in Thy sight.

O GOD, we praise Thee, we bless Thee, we glorify Thy name, that Thou hast not left us in our low estate; but hast sent salvation to us. We adore Thee for Thine infinite love and mercy, that Thou hast not spared Thine only-begotten Son, but hast freely given Him up for us all; that this Lamb hath been slain, and this atoning sacrifice hath been made for the sins of the world; and that God is in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.

O LORD, we lament that we have felt during the past week so little love to Thee who hast done such great things for us. We lament that earthly things

have carried away our thoughts; and that sin hath had such dominion over us; and that the gospel of our salvation hath had so little power to keep us humble and thankful, spiritual and heavenly-minded, patient and meek under the trials of life; and to make us diligent in well-doing.

We now beseech Thee to bless unto us Thy approaching sabbath. May our hearts be warmed with love to Thee. May our prayers and our praises ascend with acceptance to the throne of Thy heavenly grace. May heavenly things occupy our thoughts, and may the world lessen in our esteem.

O God, we lament with shame and sorrow before Thee, that, notwithstanding all the means of grace, we have so little improved our time and talents, have so little honoured Thee by our lives, or advanced in true holiness. Day after day we propose to amend our lives, to repent of all our past sins, and to forsake them henceforth for ever:—but how soon do our hearts again return to the world; our temptations again come upon us, and overpower us; and our utmost strength is weakness.

To Thee, the God of all power and grace, do we therefore now pray for strength to serve Thee. Thy face, O Lord, would we seek; on Thee do we humbly wait; beseeching Thee to deliver us from the power and dominion of our sins, and to make Thy strength perfect in our weakness.

Make us henceforth to be more fervent in prayer,

and more conscious of our entire dependence on Thee, and of our infinite obligations to Thee; that so obtaining from Thee the efficacious help of Thy Holy Spirit, we may be established in Thy most holy ways; and may be carried safely through all the dangers and trials of this mortal life; till at length we shall sit down with CHRIST in His heavenly kingdom.

We offer up these our prayers in the name of our only Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FOURTH SATURDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, and from whom no secrets are hid, we beseech Thee to look down on us Thy servants, who are here assembled to worship Thy holy name.

We thank Thee for Thy daily goodness towards us; for Thou hast made us to abound with the comforts of this life, and hast delivered us out of many dangers to which we have been exposed. Thou hast also blest us with opportunities of religious knowledge, and hast set continually before us the glorious hope of everlasting life. Thou hast guided us by Thy providence; and, after many years of

goodness and mercy, hast brought us to the conclusion of another week.

We desire, O LORD, humbly to confess our manifold sins and trespasses against Thee. We have erred and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep. We have often wandered from the right path, through our ignorance, and folly; our pride, and vanity; our eager, selfish, and covetous desires; our blindness, and prejudice, and hardness of heart. Too often have we called evil, good; and good, evil; and shut our eyes against the truth. O LORD, pardon these and all our transgressions, for Jesus Christ's sake; and make us to be henceforth more watchful and circumspect, more faithful and upright, more earnest to know our duty, as well as more diligent to perform it. Save us from a life of unprofitableness and sloth. Let us remember that Thou wilt require an account of the talents committed to us; and that to whomsoever much is given, of them shall much be required. Now, while we have life and a measure of health and strength, let us avail ourselves of those opportunities which we possess of doing good in this evil world: and let us endeavour to abound more and more in every useful and beneficent work. We beseech Thee to prepare our minds for Thy service on the approaching sabbath. Deliver us from all eager thoughts concerning the things of this life; and enable us on Thy sacred day to give our undivided attention to the great concerns of eternity. May we rejoice in

every return of this holy season, and may we go forth with willing feet to the worship of Thy sanctuary.

We commend to Thy gracious care our several friends and relations. Save them from the dangers of this evil world: sanctify them to Thyself, and prepare them, both by the events of Thy gracious providence, and by the guidance of Thy good Spirit, for that day, when both we and they shall be summoned to appear before Thee. We pray Thee to have mercy on the poor, the sick, and the afflicted; and to dispose the hearts of many to have compassion upon them. Bless our King and all in authority. Give wisdom to our Houses of Parliament. Inspire our clergy with the spirit of true religion, and unite us all in the bonds of a common faith one with another. Put an end to war and discord throughout the world. Do Thou, who art the God of love, dispose the nations to unity and concord; and so order all events, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established among us for all generations.

These and all other blessings we humbly ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

FIFTH SATURDAY EVENING.

O Lord, God Almighty, who art our Creator, and Preserver, and our daily Benefactor, assist us now to thank Thee, according to Thy will, for the mercies of the past day; enable us to confess our sins with devout and contrite hearts; and teach us to pray, with fervent faith, unto Thee for Thy grace and protection this night and for ever.

We bless Thee, O Lord our God, that Thou hast permitted us to go out and come in, this day, in safety; that Thou hast given us health and strength; hast covered our table with plenty; and hast kept us free from trouble, and anxiety, and alarm. But we thank Thee, especially, for that knowledge of Thy gospel, with which Thou hast blest us. We praise Thee for that glorious and rich inheritance in a life to come, which Thou hast set before us; and for the gracious promise of the pardon of our sins, through Jesus Christ.

For these Thy various and great gifts we desire to laud and magnify Thy holy name; and we pray that we may never forget the Author of our blessings; but that, day by day, we may abound in thanksgiving; and may, also, freely confess unto

Thee all our sins, and may cry unto Thee, in deep penitence, for mercy.

Forgive, O LORD, we now beseech Thee, whatsoever evil Thou hast seen in us this day. We have done many things which we ought not to have done; and we fear that we may at present be aware of only a small part of our offences; for who can tell how oft he offendeth!

O LORD, cleanse Thou us from our secret faults.

Pardon, we pray Thee, all the negligences of this day, as well as the more grievous transgressions. Pardon all our wasted time, our idle words, and our negligence in our several employments. Pardon, also, our evil tempers, our pride, and our envy;—our anger and violence of spirit. O forgive whatsoever Thou knowest to have been amiss in us, Thou, O GOD, who seest our hearts and piercest into our most secret thoughts.

And, in order that we may obtain forgiveness of the sins both of this day and of all our lives past, we now plead that name of JESUS CHRIST, Thy Son, in which we have been taught by Thy gospel to place all our confidence and hope. O FATHER ALMIGHTY, pardon us, for His sake. We confess our guilt; we desire to be truly sorry for our sins. Accept, therefore, this our repentance, since we trust not in ourselves, but only in Jesus Christ our LORD and our GOD. May His death on the cross atone for our offences:—may His intercession with

Thee prevail on our behalf. May we be of the number of those, who, renouncing their own righteousness, are saved by His grace. May we believe unfeignedly in His name. May we be justified by this faith: and may we go to rest, night after night, having peace with Thee through Him, our Redeemer.

We pray, also, that we may lie down in charity with all mankind. May we bear no malice nor hatred to any one in our hearts; but may we commit ourselves to rest with thoughts of kindness, and forbearance, and meekness, and good-will to all.

And we pray, also, that, while we are commending ourselves to Thy grace and mercy, we may resolve by Thine help henceforth to cease from every sin, and to devote ourselves to Thy service. And to this end may Thy Spirit continually strengthen and assist us. Do Thou, in the ensuing sabbath, put within us good desires, and holy thoughts; and defend us from all kind of evil; and enable us to worship Thee acceptably in the services of Thy house. Help us, day by day, to amend our ways. May we grow in grace, and learn more and more how we may walk so as to please Thee; and thus may we be prepared for the hour of death and for the day of judgement.

O Lord, take us now into Thy holy keeping. Let Thy blessing be this night upon us, and upon all belonging to us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord, &c.

THE END.

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